

Hafa Adai!

Six bucket trucks arrive on huge cargo plane. » **PAGE 2**

Kilili: Navy order for supplemental DEIS 'small victory' for CNMI. » **PAGE 3**

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75¢

NMI Nursing Board a black hole for off-island NCLEX applicants

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

Nurses from off-island who want to take the nursing licensure exam or

NCLEX here in the Commonwealth are being made to wait for months on end with no feedback or response to their inquiries about the processing of their applications—a recurring prob-

lem with seemingly no concrete solution in sight.

Glynnis Amalthea Pearson, a registered nurse in the Philippines, sent her application along with her other

documents as well as the application fee of \$110 to the CNMI Board of Nursing last June.

"I am very disappointed with the Board of Nursing because I have been

trying to contact them since August regarding my eligibility status but didn't get a response from them," she said.

Pearson said she resigned from work

See NCLEX on Page 4

Champi knocks out Tinian water supply



By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

Tropical Storm Champi, which strengthened into a typhoon after blowing through the Marianas on Friday, brought gusty winds of up to 70 miles per hour and torrential rain that caused flashfloods and erosion to Saipan and Tinian.

According to the National Weather Service in Guam, Champi dumped 24.77 inches of rain on Tinian from midnight until 4pm of Friday. Saipan, on the other hand, received 11.71 inches of rain during the 18-hour precipitation period.

» **Public school classes on Tinian, work for non-essential Tinian employees cancelled today**

See CHAMPI on Page 4

Champi downs nine power poles

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The passing of Tropical Storm Champi

caused nine power poles to come down and main lines to trip across the island, causing an islandwide power blackout, according to Commonwealth Utilities

Corp. officials yesterday.

"It caused CUC to shutdown," acting CUC executive director John Riegel told *Saipan Tribune*. "Linemen didn't do any work on that day [Friday]."

Winds remained too high for line

crews to address all restoration issues from Typhoon Soudelor and Tropical Storm Champi.

Riegel said they had one crew responding to trouble calls but even on

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INSIDE



BUSINESS

The problem with exploding Takata air bag inflators spreads to GM cars and SUVs.

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ASIA

Typhoon Koppu weakens after blowing ashore with fierce wind in the Philippines.

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WORLD

Palestinian assailants carry out stabbing attacks in Jerusalem and the West Bank.

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TAGA SPORTS OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2015 EDITION

Local



Six bucket trucks arrived on the Antonov 124 yesterday afternoon to aid power restoration efforts following Typhoon Soudelor.

DENNIS B. CHAN

Six bucket trucks arrive aboard huge cargo plane

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

A large cargo plane carrying bucket trucks from the U.S. mainland arrived yesterday afternoon at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

Acting Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director John Riegel said the linemen who will be operating these trucks arrived on Saturday from Colorado. The crew and CUC and government officials assisting with restoration efforts after Typhoon Soudelor were at the airport yesterday to await the Antonov AH 124 and its trucks.

Riegel said this crew from Colorado—brought in by the Federal Emergency Management Agency—will be putting up transformers, hooking up homes, and taking care of dropped lines, for example.

“We worked with FEMA to get them here. But the CNMI is footing the bill for their presence,” Riegel said in an interview outside the airport gates after the trucks had been unloaded.

The crew would be on island for about two months.

Riegel said yesterday that about 40 percent of CUC customers already have power but this was a “rough number.”

As for more shipment of equipment, Riegel said another shipment of transformers and power poles are expected.

“We have the normal hardware coming in,” he said. “But as far as big shipment of equipment and materials, we are reaching the end of the big shipments.”

CUC public information officer Brad Ruszala said the next shipment of transformers would be on island in about a week and a half, on Oct. 28.

This is a shipment of 306 transformers, he said.

“They were originally scheduled for the 20th, but they are on the 28th so we can get it all on one flight,” Ruszala told *Saipan Tribune*.

“It was going to be broken up into two... But we’d rather wait and get it all at once,” added Riegel yesterday.

Senate passes bill to require CUC connections for all public leases

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Senate has passed a bill to require all public land leases to include a condition that they must connect to and use the local power grid.

Senate Bill 12-50, SD1 amends Commonwealth Code to mandate that all public land leases include a condition that a lessee connect to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for the duration of the lease.

The bill states that this condition will be subject to CUC’s evaluation of the proposed development power requirements and a determination that the existing local power generation capacity is capable of providing for the development’s power.

The bill states that if necessary, the lessee may be required to pay for improvements and

upgrades to the power grid to meet an additional power load of the proposed development.

The bill states that if existing power generation is incapable of meeting the power needs, then the lessee may be exempt from this condition.

“Investors that desire to do business in the Commonwealth should contribute to the development and enhancement of the infrastructure of the islands. One way to contribute to such development is for such investors and business to connect and use the CUC power grid,” the bill states.

“This public land lease condition will spread out the cost of power generation among all the power customers and generate more fund necessary to upgrade, improve, and maintain the CUC power systems,” the bill states.



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'Navy order for supplemental DEIS small victory for NMI'

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) calls the U.S. Department of Navy's recent decision to order a supplemental environmental impact statement for live-fire training and bombing on Tinian and Pagan a "win" for the Northern Marianas.

"Those are small victories, but one after another it helps," Sablan said in an interview last week. "And that's why people who disagree with the NEPA process need to understand that the NEPA process is making all of this reviews and re-reviews and change of plans" possible, he said.

The Navy two weeks ago called for a second round of review for the "CNMI Joint Military Training" or CJMT plans.

"Without the NEPA process, the military doesn't have to explain any of its actions," Sablan said. "Whether it's the [Marianas Islands Training and Testing EIS], or the [Divert Airfield Project EIS], or the CJMT," he



Sablan

added, referring to other voluminous impact statements that the CNMI has been forced to review in recent years.

"Two years ago, I was allowed to sit in with the [U.S. House of Representatives] Armed Services Committee and we were talking about some of these environmental impact studies and my suggestion then was why are you having different environmental impact studies? Whether it's MITT, or CJMT, or the Divert—why don't you just have one? So [that] it's easier for us in the Northern Marianas to address...instead of these different parts."

"...This divide and conquer thing is not in the best interest of the Northern Marianas," Sablan added.

The CJMT is the fifth major military training project proposed for the CNMI in recent years, among others, like the U.S. Air Force's proposed divert airfield project, the U.S. Navy's expansive bombing and sonar training projects, and the "Guam Buildup EIS,"

which when first announced included Tinian in its scope.

"Each of the five projects has involved the preparation of an EIS," Dentons, a firm hired by the CNMI to review the CJMT project, has said. "None of the five EIS fully evaluates any alternatives located outside the CNMI. Based on the documents we have reviewed to date, it appears the Navy has consistently singled out the CNMI for inappropriate treatment under NEPA."

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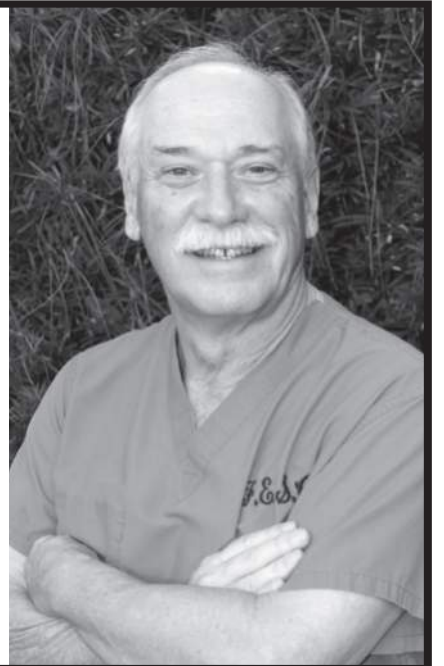
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Soroptimist International awards \$1,000 grant each to two women



Yulia Aleksenko is one of the awardees of the Soroptimist International-Northern Mariana Islands' Live Your Dream program this year. She received \$1,000 to help with her education as she also continues to provide and work for her family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

Two deserving women were awarded grants by the Soroptimist International of the Northern Mariana Islands through their Live Your Dream project at the Kanoa Resort last Saturday.

College students Yulia Aleksenko and Rufina Flores Olupomar were awarded \$1,000 in financial help as they attend college while being the primary financial support of their family. This is the first time that SI-NMI helped two women.

"The scoring was incredibly close so we just gave out \$2,000," SI-NMI president Jill Arenovski said. "Our club is doing a little better and we were able to give a second award."

According to Arenovski, the funds are awarded to the recipient to be used for any purpose

she chooses. She can use it for child care so she can attend classes and study, or to purchase transportation to class, or to buy food for her family.

Aleksenko who is from Russia but has been on island for 20 years, works full time and attends the Northern Mariana College at night to study Business Administration. She said she wasn't able to finish college in her younger years because all she did was work for a living.

Aleksenko said the \$1,000 will be a big help not only for her schooling but for her son as well. Aside from working full time, she is also a full time mom to a 9-year-old boy who also attends Russian language school and swimming lessons in addition to his regular school.

"I'm very proud to be part of this program," Aleksenko said.

See SOROPTIMIST on Page 4

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Delta invests more in pay, benefits for employees

What does an airline do when employees ask for more security and predictability in their pay while still sharing in the company's success? Simple—it restructures its employee compensation to put more in base pay while keeping a profit-sharing plan that will provide employees with double-digit payouts when the airline meets its financial goals.

Delta announced in September that it is increasing most employees' base pay by 14.5 percent while continuing to offer a generous profit sharing plan. The company also is increasing its 401(k) dollar-for-dollar match from 5 to 6 percent.

In a memo to employees, CEO Richard Anderson and president Ed Bastian said,

"When combined with the April [annual pay] increases, pay rates for most employees will be up 18 percent or more in 2015, providing you with record pay raises in a year of record profits. Few companies can match that."

Meanwhile, over the past two years Delta has returned over \$3 billion to shareholders and has reduced its debt by \$10 billion

while continuing to invest in aircraft, the onboard customer experience and upgrading facilities worldwide.

Here's what Delta shared with employees:

1. Delta is responding to employee feedback by putting more money in base pay.

Base pay rates will increase by 14.5 percent for all eligible merit, ground and flight at-

tendant employees around the world on Dec. 1. When combined with the April increases, pay rates for most employees will be up 18 percent or more in 2015, providing record pay raises in a year of record profits.

2. Profit sharing is here to stay.

The new profit sharing formula, for payouts in 2017 and beyond, shares 10 percent of profits until the airline matches its prior-year profitability and

then pays 20 percent of profits, with no limit.

3. Delta increases match on 401(k).

Delta will match employees' 401(k) contributions up to 6 percent of pay starting Jan. 1. With automatic and matching contributions from the airline, which together can equal up to 8 percent of employee earnings, the total will add up to 14 percent of an employee's earnings. *(Delta)*

CHAMPI

From Page 1

Champi tracked closer to Saipan, passing between the island and Anatahan after it dipped a little southward on Friday, a change from the previous expected track that would have taken it north of Anatahan. The closest point of approach was 48 nautical miles from Saipan.

With over two feet of rain, Tinian sustained major flooding and damage to roads, including the one they call Carolinas Road going up to the residence of Antonio Borja, which led to the disruption of most of the water services on the island.

"We had major flooding and damage to any areas within Tinian. The gravel roads were heavily damaged. One of them, which sits on top of the main waterline, resulted in the damage of that waterline, making it so that we're not able to provide water to about 70 percent of our residents," Tinian Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas said.

"We are without water at this time."

San Nicolas said they have deployed water tankers and opened up water stations for residents at the Tinian Gymnasium and Marpo Heights.

"The 30 percent that have water, they're joined from a different source," he said.

San Nicolas said they already reached out to the Office of Homeland Security and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to provide them materials needed to repair the broken waterline.

"We're working with Homeland Security and CUC to bring down very much needed pipes so that we can fix those broken pipes," he said.

The Tinian mayor said they are looking at chartering a vessel or a plane to bring the materials to the island either today or tomorrow. Once the materials arrive, San Nicolas said they are looking at fixing the pipes within the day. "We hope to have the pipes fixed by tomorrow at the latest on Tuesday."

Due to the water situation and potential sanitation issues, the Municipality of Tinian has declared no classes for all public schools on the island today and no work for all non-essential municipal employees also today.

Tinian also experienced power interruption due to Champi but it was restored within 24 hours. One shelter was opened but residents who sought shelter were all able to go back to their homes.

San Nicolas said they will continue with their cleanup around the island today.

"I would like to thank Office of Homeland Security, the Governor's Office, CUC, and the people of Tinian for their patience," San Nicolas said.

Floods, islandwide power outage

On Saipan, many roads were submerged in several inches of water, with almost more than a day of non-stop rain and some were also damaged by erosion and flash floods over the weekend.

"Flooding has subsided but

there are still some spots that have standing water," press secretary Ivan Blanco said Sunday.

"Some of the roads that were impassable after the storm, they are being fixed by the Mayor's Office and Department of Public Works," Blanco said.

He added that assessment report on the roads that were damaged will be available today.

"Kannat Tabla was one of the major roads that was badly damaged from the storm; they had it fixed [Saturday]," Blanco said.

A secondary road across XO Market on Middle Road was also fixed.

"That whole road was washed down," Blanco said.

Some roads in Kagman also reportedly sustained damage.

Blanco said assessments on homes were done on Saturday and there was not much new damage from Champi.

"It was a good scare but I think people were prepared. They got ready," he said.

Over 300 residents sought refuge in five schools and two centers that were opened up for shelters starting Thursday night. Those residents were able to go home after the passage of Champi.

Cancelled, delayed flights

Due to the inclement weather, United Airlines cancelled five flights heading to Saipan from Guam on Saturday, according to a statement from the airline and flightstats.com.

Other major airline flights were either cancelled or delayed. But the Francisco C.

Ada/Saipan International Airport remained open, according to the CNMI Joint Information Center.

The Port of Saipan, meanwhile, was closed on Friday due to hazardous wave conditions.

Flights set to arrive at 3:35am, 8:05am, 1pm, 5:35pm, and 9:20pm were cancelled, according to flightstats.com.

Delta Air Lines, meanwhile, announced on their website that flights to and from Saipan may be affected by Tropical Storm Champi.

A Delta flight that was set to arrive at 3:05pm on Friday was delayed until the next day, arriving on Saipan on Saturday at 2:07am, according to flightstats.com.

Inter-island flights were cancelled Friday as well, according to JIC.

Storm update

Tropical storm conditions on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota were last to be cancelled at 8am on Saturday, while conditions for Alamagan, Pagan, and Agrihan were cancelled Friday evening.

As of 2pm yesterday, Typhoon Champi was located 475 miles northwest of Saipan and had maximum sustained winds of 115 miles per hour. It was still expected to intensify further through today before beginning a slow weakening trend.

Champi was moving north-northwest at 5 mph and was expected to turn toward the north last night and to the northeast over the next few days. *(With Dennis B. Chan)*

ment was less than full secondary," he said.

On Friday, the last of the Saipan feeders went offline at 2:07pm.

As Champi continues to whirl away from the CNMI, CUC said all its generators remain undamaged and fully operational.

The nine downed poles occurred in the following villages: one poles in Chalan Laulau, two in Kagman, two in Dandan, two in As Lito, one in Susupe, and another in Oleai.

SI-NMI also gave \$100 to a third applicant, Jordan Reyes Agulto. The applications of the three were judged by non-Soroptimist members.

LYD is the signature event of all Soroptimist clubs worldwide as they aim to empower women through education.

POLES

From Page 1

Saturday, crews didn't work but were just going out answering trouble calls.

"We had a couple of poles that came down. All of the feeders tripped," Riegel said.

"[Crews] restored power on Saturday. And they continued to restore power to the wells, and people would have noticed that there wasn't any wa-

ter for most of the day. That's because we needed to wait for most of the wells to get back online so we could replenish what's in the tank. Once we had that up and running, we opened up the tanks and people had water," he said.

Riegel said most of the 24-hour water service areas were returned to service, while others had to wait until Sunday.

As for the nine poles that went down, Riegel clarified that these were not new poles brought in

after Typhoon Soudelor. "They were all on laterals, none of them were on the main feeders."

On wastewater, Riegel said the Sadog Tasi treatment plant did not have water or power, but the Agingan plant had, with a generator running.

The Sadog Tasi treatment plant didn't have water, didn't have power. Agingan has a generator, so it was working fine. The Sadog Tasi plant doesn't have a generator, so until we had the power back the treat-

nursing degree.

"She lost both her parents at an early age and was left responsible for four younger sisters," Arenovski said in her introduction of Olupomar.

Olupomar, who is currently in the U.S. mainland, wasn't able to attend the awarding.

their dream despite life's challenges.

"Even if you don't have any money in your pocket, if you have a goal, you have to keep going," she said.

The other recipient, Olupomar, is in her first year at Dixie State University, studying for a

SOROPTIMIST

From Page 3

"Every semester I've been struggling but now I know I should really go and never give up."

Aleksenko said she wants to encourage women to continue

"Most applicants send their application separately with the requirements. They can send their application a month from now or two months from now. That's the thing, sometimes they don't send everything at one time," Fleming said. "I can't forward that [application] to the board for review unless the requirements are complete. As long as it's complete, then I forward it to the board for review."

"I usually tell the applicants to follow up at least within two weeks but actually there is no timeline [as to how long until they can get approval]," Fleming added.

She said there is already a move to add more staff to their office.

Aside from the lack of personnel, Fleming also noted the challenges that the island has faced over the past months.

"As you are aware we have that islandwide outage in July and then the typhoon again in August. All of those have caused delays with everything else that's gone in the office," Fleming said.

She urged applicants to be patient.

"Be patient. Unfortunately, I'm the only one here. I try my best to process everything," she said.

However, this is not the first time the *Saipan Tribune* has received complaints about the lack of action and feedback from the CNMI Nursing Board. This has been a constant occurrence for many years now, such that the CNMI has already gained a reputation among nursing review centers abroad.

"I called one of the review center here in our country and they don't recommend their students to apply [on] Saipan anymore because of that problem regarding the nursing board," said Pearson. "Hopefully they would update their contact numbers on their website and add additional staff so that they could accommodate their applicants."

"The reason why I applied in Northern Mariana Islands is that they don't require SS number from their applicants," she added. "Other states in the United States require SS number which is difficult for me to secure because I don't have a US visa yet."

"I'm hoping that their system can improve so that it will not be difficult for foreign nurses to follow up regarding their application status," Pearson said.

Immigration, education, healthcare highlights of youth summit

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
Participants in the 2015 Close-Up Youth Summit listen to a speech by a lawmaker at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.



By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
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REPORTER

Residency for contract workers, the persistent shortage of teachers and healthcare specialists, and funding transparency are just some of the issues in the CNMI that were highlighted by young voices at the 2015 Close-Up Youth Summit.

Thirty-nine high school students from both public and private schools gathered for this year's summit at the Fiesta Resort and Spa last Wednesday and Thursday.

According to Public School System social studies coordinator Patricia Sablan, students from Tinian and Rota weren't able to attend as their flights were cancelled due to the unfavorable weather conditions last week.

"There were supposed to be 60 from the whole CNMI," Sablan said.

The Close-Up Youth Summit is a component of the Close-Up Insular Areas Program. It is designed to demonstrate how the U.S. model of democracy functions and to foster the interest, knowledge, and skills needed to effectively participate in a democracy. It also addresses the academic needs of insular areas and provides training and materials to improve teachers' civic education skills.

The three-day event also had to be compressed to two due but the students were no less than productive and enthusiastic in creating their youth agenda for CNMI policy action.

The group was divided into committees: on cultural affairs and immigration, education and schools, environment, energy and natural resources, economic development and budget, health and welfare, and law enforcement and public safety.

Each of the committees developed a set of policy proposals to address concerns in the Commonwealth, 10 of which they presented to members of the 19th Legislature and discussed with senators and rep-

resentatives.

In one of the proposals, the youth's Committee on Cultural Affairs and Immigration requested the Legislature "to petition [the federal government] for a bill regarding residency for nonresident immigrant workers who fall under the contract worker visa program."

"I thought that this was an important topic ever since. Ninety percent of the workforce is from the private sector and 90 percent of the workers are nonimmigrant or CW workers. If they leave in 2019, the CNMI's economy will gradually fall and there wouldn't be enough people to work [on] this island," youth cultural affairs and immigration committee chair Jayrald Mercene of Marianas High School said.

Ann Margaret Norcio, also from MHS, was part of the economic development and budget committee.

"It was a very challenging committee to work with because the economic budget had to deal with all the other six committees because in order for the other committees to be passed or be enacted, there had to be a specific funding or budget for that," Norcio said.

Their committee focused on funding issues for tourism, gambling and infrastructure, which they really had to do a lot of research.

"What we recently found out was that throughout the years there has been a lot of budget cuts in the CNMI and we had to work on that," Norcio said.

Close-Up curriculum and training manager Nikki Ulrich said she is always inspired and amazed by the students' ideas.

"I was also really impressed with their critical thinking, working through really complex ideas for young people to address and their commitment to seeing those proposals through and confidence in presenting them to what could be an intimidating group of 12 people on the stage," facilitator and Close-Up curriculum

and training specialist Lauren Ebersole said.

Close-Up is a Washington-based non-profit organization that educates and inspires young people to become in-

formed and active citizens. Close-Up programs help students develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to engage in American democracy.

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Tasi Tours seeks judgment vs tour agency for tourist's drowning

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tasi Tours & Transportation wants the federal court's clerk of court to enter a default judgment against a tour agency that brought to Managaha Island female Chinese tourist Wang Dao, who drowned while snorkeling off the island in 2012.

Tasi Tours, through counsel Rexford C. Kosack, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI's clerk of court to declare Man Bao Corp., owner of Win Tour, in default for allegedly failing to answer or respond to its crossclaim.

Kosack said Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 55(a) states that "when a party against

whom a judgment for affirmative relief is sought has failed to plead or otherwise defend, and that failure is shown by affidavit or otherwise, the clerk must enter the party's default."

Tasi Tours filed the crossclaim against Win Tour on April 27, 2015. Kosack said the crossclaim was served on Win Tour's lawyer on April 27, 2015. He said Win Tour had 21 days from the date of service to answer the counterclaim.

Kosack said the record shows that Win Tour failed to answer or otherwise respond to the counterclaim. As the time to do so has long expired, he said the default of Win Tour "must" be entered.

In Tasi Tours' counterclaim, Kosack asserted that although

Tasi denies any liability to Wang Dao's father, Xiao Ting Wang, Tasi Tours may be compelled to pay a judgment in favor of Xiao Wang.

The father is the personal representative of Wang Dao.

Kosack said any such judgment should be paid in whole or in part by Win Tour.

Kosack said Win Tour sold Dao a tour to Managaha and thus, she was a customer of that company.

Win Tour transported Dao to Managaha and rented her a snorkel and mask. Kosack said Win Tour instructed Dao as to the area in the water where to snorkel. He said Win Tour had a duty to Dao in instruct her in the use of a snorkel and mask, but the tour agency did not do this.

Xiao Wang, as personal representative of his daughter, Dao, is suing Tasi Tours and Win Tour. Xiao Wang, through counsel William Fitzgerald, asked the court to hold the defendants liable to pay him unspecified damages.

In Tasi Tours' crossclaim, Kosack said in the event the plaintiff's allegations are proven true, Dao's death was the direct and proximate result of Win Tour's breach of one or more of its duties.

Aside from its crossclaim, Tasi Tours also filed its answer and affirmative defenses to Wang's lawsuit.

In Tasi Tours' defenses, Kosack said Wang is barred from any recovery from Tasi Tours, in that any injury of Dao, the

death of Dao, and the damages, if any, sustained were the direct and proximate result of Dao's own conduct, or the conduct of persons other than Tasi.

Judge Ramona V. Manglona had already ruled that Tasi Tours owed a duty of reason-

able care to Dao.

"Whether deploying life-guards to watch the area in which Dao drowned would have been reasonable...is a jury question," said Manglona in denying Tasi Tours' motion to dismiss Wang's lawsuit.

Insurance firm denies liability in chair collapse that injured guest

An insurance company has denied any liability or obligation to a company that sold to Saipan Laulau Development Inc. a white plastic chair that allegedly collapsed under the weight of a hotel guest.

Traders Insurance Co., through counsel R. Todd Thompson, asked the Superior Court to declare that Traders Insurance's policy of insurance does not apply to any liability or other obligation that arises or may arise out of the complaint.

Thompson asked the court to relieve Traders Insurance of any duty to defend or indemnify Markikat Co., owner of Multi-line Supply that sold the chair to Saipan Laulau Development Inc., under the public liability insurance policy.

Traders Insurance first issued Markikat Co. a public liability insurance policy on Jan. 14, 2010, providing certain coverage to Markikat for public liability. Thompson said the policy was renewed for several years on the same terms and conditions.

However, on Oct. 19, 2012, Markikat cancelled its public liability policy, effective Oct. 31, 2012, Thompson said.

On July 16, 2013, Danny Aquino Jr. was allegedly injured when the plastic white chair he was sitting on at Saipan Laulau Development collapsed. Six months later, Aquino and his wife, Joann, sued Saipan Laulau Development in Superior Court.

The couple is seeking dam-

ages against Saipan Laulau Development for negligence, violation of the Consumer Protection Act, and loss of consortium.

In April 2014, Markikat was served with a certain third-party complaint, alleging that Markikat was the seller of the chair that injured Aquino. The complaint alleges that Markikat is liable for indemnification, contributory fault, contribution, negligence, violation of the Consumer Protection Act, and products liability.

Markikat, through its counsel, tendered the complaint to Traders Insurance pursuant to the insurance policy, requesting a defense and indemnification against the allegations of the complaint.

Thompson said that Traders Insurance, through its attorney, denied any legal obligation to defend and indemnify Markikat, saying their policy expressly excludes indemnification for "bodily injury or property damage that arises out of [Markikat's] products if the bodily injury or property damage occurs after it has relinquished possession of those products."

Thompson said Traders Insurance further took the position that coverage was barred based on the fact that the policy was cancelled at Markikat's request on Oct. 31, 2012, thus affording no coverage with respect to the accident, which occurred some months later in July 2013. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Typhoon Champi causes flooding

Heavy rains brought by Typhoon Champi caused flooding along the main highways of Saipan Friday afternoon.

At about 4pm, a police car was on standby near the Coca-Cola building along Middle Road as water occupied the entire opposite lane. The heavy downpour resulted in close to zero visibility that slowed down vehicles.

Floodwaters cascading strongly from the Sugar King Park covered the four lanes of the highway across Taro Sue in Garapan.

A big portion of the main highway in Tanapag was also submerged.

Most areas of Beach Road from Garapan to San Antonio were likewise flooded. It became dangerous for motorists to travel along Beach Road starting at 2pm Friday as water covered most portions of the high-

way. Strong winds and rain also caused near zero visibility along Beach Road.

"It's so scary to drive along Beach Road on Friday afternoon. I decided to use Middle Road, but still it's flooded there," a motorist told *Saipan Tribune*.

Cascading floodwaters near the Shell Gas Station and Joten Dandan posed problems to motorists.

Some patrol and traffic officers told *Saipan Tribune* on Saturday that there was no major traffic accident, but they monitored a lot of flooded streets.

On Thursday night, Mobil gas stations ran out of fuel supply as a long line of motorists filled their gas tanks.

Packing maximum sustained winds at 115 miles per hour, Typhoon Champi moved yesterday farther away from the Marianas. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

WIOA Dislocated Worker Funding Program

If any of these categories apply to you, please contact WIA.

Category A: General Dislocated Workers. To qualify, an individual must meet the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment;
2. Is eligible for or has exhausted entitlement to unemployment compensation; OR has been employed or attached to the workforce for a duration sufficient to demonstrate to WIOA, but is not eligible for unemployment compensation due to insufficient earnings or having performed services for an employer that were not covered under a state unemployment compensation law; and
3. Is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.

Category B: Plant Closure. To qualify, an individual must meet one of the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment as a result of any permanent closure of, or any substantial layoff at, plant, facility, or enterprise;
2. Is employed at a facility at which the employer has made a general announcement that such facility close within 180 days; or
3. For purpose of eligibility to receive services other than training, intensive or supportive services under WIOA, is employed at a facility at which the employer has made general announcement that such facility will close.

Category C: Self Employed or Unemployed. To qualify, an individual must meet the following criteria:

1. Was self employed (including employment as a farmer, a rancher, or a fisherman) but is unemployed as a result of general economic conditions in the community in which the individual resides or because of natural disasters.

Category D: is a displaced homemaker;

DISPLACED HOMEMAKER—The term "displaced homemaker" means an individual who has been providing unpaid services to family members in the home and who—

- (A) (i) has been dependent on the income of another family member but is no longer supported by that income; or (ii) is the dependent spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code) and whose family income is significantly reduced because of a deployment (as defined in section 991(b) of title 10, United States Code, or pursuant to paragraph (4) of such section), a call or order to active duty pursuant to a provision of law referred to in section 101(a)(13)(B) of title 10, United States Code, a permanent change of station, or the service-connected (as defined in section 101(16) of title 38, United States Code) death or disability of the member; and
- (B) is unemployed or underemployed and is experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment.

Category E:

1. Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code), and who has experienced a loss of employment as a direct result of relocation to accommodate a permanent change in duty station of such member; or
2. Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty and who meets the criteria described in Displaced Homemaker Definition (B).

You may be able to qualify for services under WIOA's Dislocated Worker Funding Program. All other program eligibility requirements apply.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Saipan: (670) 664-1704/1707/1708/1757 • **Fax:** (670) 664-1710
Email: gov.wia@pticom.com

Tourist's suit vs 2 soldiers for alleged beating dismissed

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court has dismissed a lawsuit filed three years ago by a tourist against two members of the U.S. military special forces for allegedly beating him up outside the G.I.G. Discotheque in Garapan.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed Ki Pong

Kwon's lawsuit after he, though counsel, failed to file any response to the court's order.

Kwon filed the lawsuit on Sept. 22, 2012, but failed to show proof that he had notified either defendant of his complaint, Manglona said.

Disbarred lawyer Ramon K. Quichocho used to serve as counsel for Kwon in the lawsuit against Carl Weight Jr. and Marty Joel Lopez.

On June 5, 2014, the court ordered Kwon to show cause why his lawsuit should not be dismissed pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

Manglona said the order was served on Kwon's counsel, Quichocho, on the same day through the court's electronic filing system, or case management/electronic case filing system.

Kwon, a Korean national, sued Weight and Lopez for as-

sault, battery, and intentional infliction of emotional distress. He demanded damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

According to the complaint, Kwon and a friend named Tony had gone to G.I.G. Discotheque on Sept. 22, 2012, at 12:30am. About 30 minutes later, Tony left. At 2:40am, Kwon called him to pick him up at the discotheque.

As Kwon was getting inside

Tony's vehicle, Weight and Lopez allegedly started taunting Kwon. Quichocho said that when Kwon got into the vehicle, one of the defendants opened the door and punched and hit Kwon. Weight and Lopez then allegedly pulled Kwon out of the vehicle and continued beating and taunting him.

Tony tried to stop the beating, but one of the defendants stood in front of him and allegedly

threatened him.

Tony called the police, prompting the defendants to run away from the scene.

Quichocho said Tony tried to pick up the unconscious tourist, but saw his head was covered with blood.

An ambulance later transported Kwon to the Commonwealth Health Center where he received several stitches to the head.



EMS & FIRE PREVENTION MONTH PRESENTATION

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

In observance of EMS and Fire Prevention Month, the CNMI Fire Department treated Mount Carmel School's 1st to 5th grade students to a very entertaining presentation that featured vehicle demonstrations, simulations with the department's equipment, and a guest appearance from Sparky, the department's safety awareness mascot. Students were both educated and entertained as they learned about the many ways the department works to keep them safe in emergencies.



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USDA offers funding for high energy cost grants

Agriculture Undersecretary Lisa Mensah announced Thursday the availability of up to \$10 million in competitive grants to assist communities with extremely high energy costs.

Grants in the High Energy Cost program are available to communities with annual residential energy costs exceeding 275 percent of the national average. The grants may be used to acquire, construct, extend, upgrade or otherwise improve

energy generation, transmission or distribution facilities serving eligible communities. They may also be used to install on- and off-grid renewable energy systems and to make energy efficiency improvements.

For details on eligibility and application requirements and how to obtain application materials, see page 61336 of the Oct. 13, 2015, Federal Register.

The application deadline is Dec. 14, 2015. (**USDA**)

New Saipan postmaster to be installed tomorrow

MCS shows gains in standardized tests

Mount Carmel School students fared very well in the recently administered SAT-10 and College Board AP national standardized tests, according to a school statement. It said the results show significant improvement in all subjects across all grade levels. On average, students performed at or above the 50th percentile on the SAT-10 and improved from the previous year.

For the complete 2015 battery, the average performance of all students was in the 57th percentile. National percentile ranks indicate the relative standing of a student in com-

parison with other students in the same grade in the norm reference group who took the test at a comparable time. Based on the school's results, students at Mount Carmel School scored, on average, better than 57 percent of the rest of the nation.

Performance on specific subject areas also showed marked improvement from previous years. The average performance in math increased from the 54th percentile in 2014 to the 62nd percentile in 2015, while the average performance in reading increased from the 42nd percentile in 2014 to the

55th percentile in 2015. The average in science increased from the 50th percentile in 2014 to the 58th percentile in 2015, while the average in social studies increased from the 46th percentile in 2014 to the 55th percentile in 2015.

High school students also demonstrated marked improvement in the College Board AP Tests. In AP Biology, average student performance improved by 28 percent from 2014 to 2015, while average student performance in AP English improved by 40 percent in the same timeframe.

School president Galvin De-

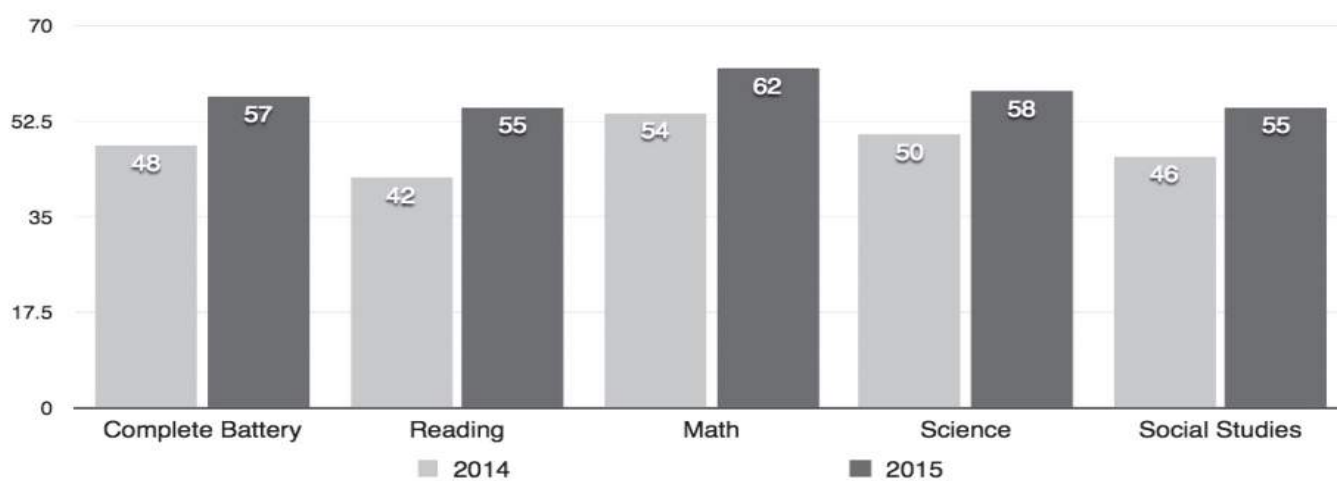
leon Guerrero attributed the success to the school's consistent emphasis on instructional quality and new initiatives to boost literacy.

"We are constantly improving in the area of instructional quality, especially with the leadership of our new principal, Frances Taimanao," he said. "Plus, new tools like Achieve3000 are helping our teachers meet the individual needs of all our students."

Achieve3000 is a cloud-based suite of interactive readings, formative assessments, and other resources that promote differentiated instruction and interdisciplinary reading for all grade levels. (MCS)

Mount Carmel School SAT-10 Average Student Performance

	Complete Battery	Reading	Math	Science	Social Studies
2014	48	42	54	50	46
2015	57	55	62	58	55



Green Meadow School students reign at first PGFC

The Falcons did it again!

Students from Green Meadow School joined other contestants from different private and public schools in Saipan in this school year's first PGFC meet held at Mount Carmel School last Oct. 10, 2015. Winning some top and major honors, the Falcons were happy that their efforts resulted in additional feathers in their caps. It was truly another glorious day for the GMS family.

The GMS administration sincerely appreciates the teachers, coaches and school staff for their tireless efforts in helping the students prepare for the competition. Thanks to parents and other family members for their help and support for our competing students. Great job too for GMS parents for providing assistance and support to PGFC by serving as judges. And congratulations to Green Meadow School students for excelling once again at PGFC. Keep up the good job Falcons!

K-2 DIVISION

■ 1st place, Dramatic Interpretation: Chedlen Rose Villanueva-1st Grade

■ 1st place, Humorous Interpretation: Leonard Jake Regalado-2nd Grade

■ 1st place, Reader's Forum

A: Claymont Dizon-1st Grade
B: Anna Julia Dalusong-1st Grade

■ 1st place, Reader's Forum Masters: Ezra Alfred-2nd Grade

■ 1st place, Duo: Justin Mallari and Carly Kate Dela Cruz-1st

■ 1st, Choral Speaking: Clyde James Sagun, Gaius Luther Ranada, Jon Matthew Ellama, Mark Justin Lagado, and Sander Dalle Guerzon-Kinder-5

■ 2nd place, Choral Speaking: Leonard Jake Regalado, Yu Yan Wang, Gwen Denise Lagmay, Zaira Angela Llaga, Leidy Phaye Agacoscos-2nd Grade

■ 2nd place, Humorous Interpretation: Audrey Anne Javier-1st Grade

■ 2nd place, Reader's Forum: Jean Jiaqi Merjilla-1st Grade

■ 2nd place, Reader's Forum Masters: Paula Angela Bernardo-1st Grade

■ 2nd place, Duo: Lvinna Palma and Ezra Alfred-2nd Grade

■ 3rd place, Dramatic Interpretation: Justin Mallari-1st Grade

■ 3rd place, Reader's Forum B: Mark Justin Lagado-Kinder-5

■ 3rd place, Impromptu B: Gaius Luther Ranada-Kinder-5

■ 3rd place, Impromptu C: Vimarie Alna Alfeche-1st Grade

■ 3rd place, Reader's Forum Masters: Gwen Denise Lagmay-1st Grade

■ 3rd place, Choral Speaking: Paula Angela Bernardo, Carly Kate Dela Cruz, Vimarie Alna Alfeche-1st Grade

■ 4th place, Dramatic Interpretation: Jealexiz Torres-1st Grade

■ 4th place, Choral Speaking: Iyana Ranin, Alexa Kaitlyn Drilon, James Harvey Quindozza, Jealexiz Torres-1st Grade

■ 4th place, Reader's Forum A: Louise Elesha Manansala-1st Grade

■ 5th place, Choral Speaking: Audry Anne Javier, Chedlen Rose Villanueva, Anna Julia Dalusong, Shaina Angela Malonzo, Tristhony Jean Duarte-1st Grade

■ 5th place, Reader's Forum A: Shaina Angela Malonzo-1st Grade

■ 5th place, Reader's Forum Masters: Alexa Kaitlyn Drilon-1st Grade

3-5 DIVISION

■ 1st place, Choral Speaking: Christian Ted Pamintuan, Christian Bhert Daniel, Leunyce Regalado, Angeline Faith Cacdac, Samantha Gabrielle Flores-5th Grade

■ 2nd place, Humorous Interpretation: Jill Anne Marie Mallari-5th Grade

■ 2nd place, Dramatic Interpretation: Jill Anne Marie Mallari-5th Grade

■ 2nd place, Duo: Chelzka Navarro and Carmelo Guillier Banzagale-3rd Grade

■ 2nd place, Choral Speaking: Lorenz Espiritu, Ed Justin Quiambao, Elijah Umali, John Paul Salamat-4th Grade

■ 3rd place, Duo: Christian Ted Pamintuan and Leunyce Regalado-5th Grade

■ 3rd place, Choral Speaking: John Cavinta, Santino Malonzo, Raiden Jay Roquelara, Carmelo Guillier Banzagale-3rd Grade

■ 4th place, Impromptu A: Jeremiah Alfred-4th Grade

■ 4th place, Impromptu B: Areeza Gaile Anda-4th Grade

■ 4th place, Duo: Areeza Gaile Anda and Ariel Allysa Legaspi-4th Grade

■ 4th place, Choral Speaking: Solana Arro Hunter, Nichole Llaga, Jazmyne Tolentino, Chelzka Navarro, Nelson Isaac Acaba-3rd Grade

■ 5th place, Dramatic Interpretation: Angeline Faith Cacdac-5th Grade

■ 5th place, Duo: Solana Arro Hunter and Nichole Llaga-3rd Grade

HONOLULU—Christopher A. Warren will be officially installed as the Saipan postmaster at a special invitation-only program scheduled for 10am on Tuesday, Oct. 20, in the lobby of the Saipan Post Office.

The brief installation program will feature remarks by Honolulu-based USPS District Manager Greg Wolny and Manager, Post Office Operations Felix Bagoyo and will

culminate in the administration of the Postmaster's Oath of Office to Warren by USPS Director of Asia-Pacific Relations Leo Tudela.

Warren replaces former Saipan postmaster James Constable, who transferred to a position as postmaster of the Paho Post Office in Hawaii.

As Saipan postmaster, Warren supervises seven postal employees at the Saipan Post Office and oversees the operations of the Capitol Hill, San Vicente, and Tinian Contract Postal Units. He is responsible for the daily distribution of an average of 5,000 pieces of mail to more than 6,200 PO Boxes. He also collaborates with Guam- and Honolulu-based USPS officials in the management of the Postal Service's complex and challenging Pacific Islands transportation network.

Warren was born and raised in Ohio and began his postal

career 26 years ago as a rural mail carrier at the Piqua (OH) Post Office. Prior to his appointment as Saipan postmaster, he had served as a Customer Services Supervisor on Guam and Officer-in-Charge of the Guam Main Postal Facility.

"I'm honored and humbled by this opportunity," said Warren. "My goal is to maintain the high standard of delivery for the residents and business communities of Saipan and Tinian."

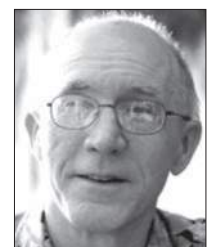
"I want to thank District Manager Wolny and Manager of Post Office Operations Bagoyo for their faith and trust in selecting me for this position. I also want to thank Asia-Pacific Relations Director Tudela and the Honorable Congressman Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) for their guidance and assistance with our Typhoon Soudelor recovery efforts. Last, but certainly not least, I'd like to express my appreciation for the dedicated employees of the Saipan Post Office, for their continuing extraordinary efforts to serve our customers during our recovery. I am grateful to be a part of their team."

Warren currently resides in Chalan Kanoa Village and is a member of the Saipan Stamp and Coin Club. (USPS)

UOG PRESIDENTIAL LECTURE SERIES:

Majuro-based writer Giff Johnson

Author, journalist, and current editor of the *Marshall Islands Journal*, Giff Johnson will be the 27th speaker in the University of Guam's Presidential Lecture Series. The lecture will be held at 5:30pm today, Oct. 19, in the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences Lecture Hall on the UOG campus. Johnson's lecture is titled



Johnson

"Idyllic No More: Pacific Island Climate, Corruption and Development Dilemmas."

"The university is pleased to introduce Giff Johnson to our university community," said Dr. Robert Underwood, UOG president. "His published works provide important insight into the modern history of our fellow islanders in the Marshall Islands."

Johnson is editor of the *Marshall Islands Journal*, the independent weekly newspaper published in Majuro, and a contributor to several news media in the Pacific. He is the author of *Idyllic No More: Pacific Islands Climate, Corruption and Development Dilemmas*, published in 2015, *Don't Ever Whisper — Darlene Keju: Pacific Health Pioneer*, Cham-

pion for *Nuclear Survivors*, published in 2013, and *Nuclear Past, Unclear Future*, a history of the U.S. nuclear testing program in the Marshall Islands, published in 2009. He has lived and worked in Majuro since 1984.

He has also been a basketball official for over 40 years, and coached several Marshall Islands national

men's and women's basketball teams in Micronesia regional competition. His son, Iohaun, is attending the University of Guam and his daughter is in high school in Singapore. (UOG)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Birthday wishes and butterfly kisses to Jihan Jewel D. Delos Ryes, who is celebrating her 3rd birthday today. Greetings come from the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina sent Friday a letter to U.S. Senate and

House congressional leadership proposing draft legislation to improve transportation within the U.S. territory of American

Interior seeks to improve air service in A. Samoa

Samoa. The bill would provide reliable and sustainable air service between Tutuila and the Manu'a Islands.

"The lack of reliable transportation between these islands inhibits tourism, impedes access to education and health care services and generally limits op-

portunities for full economic potential within the territory," said Kia'aina. "The transportation needs between Tutuila and Manu'a were evident to me on my trip to American Samoa last November. While we have provided almost \$9 million to procure a ferry for passenger/cargo

transportation, air transportation continues to play a vital role in the daily activities of the people."

Currently, there are no U.S. air carriers providing service within American Samoa between Tutuila and Manu'a. The U.S. Department of Transporta-

tion has authorized a foreign air carrier to provide this emergency service capability between the islands. However, under current U.S. law, the foreign air carrier is required to submit an application every 30 days. This legislation proposes an exemption to this requirement. **(OIA)**

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

FOA membership meeting tomorrow

The Friends of the Arts will hold its first membership meeting of the year on Tuesday evening, Oct. 20, from 6:30pm to 9pm, at the Canton Chinese Restaurant, across from the Mobil/McDonald's in Garapan. The meeting will also include musical and thespian entertainment. For more information, contact Frank Gibson at flgibson@yahoo.com. **(FOA)**

NMC classes resume today, Oct 19

The Northern Marianas College will be open today, Monday, Oct 19, 2015, and all classes will resume as scheduled. Be sure to take precautionary measures when driving

on highways as there may be storm debris and/or flooding in low-lying areas. As always, NMC will continue to provide updates during storms and other emergencies on the NMC website at www.marianas.edu, NMC Facebook page at [facebook.com/nmc.proa](https://www.facebook.com/nmc.proa), and NMC Twitter @GoProa. **(NMC)**

IP&E Shell Station locations open for business

All IP&E Shell Stations on Saipan are now open for business. Fuel and convenience store items are available for purchase at the following locations: Shell Susupe, Shell Gualo Rai, Shell Highway Express, Shell Airport, and Shell Puerto Rico. **(IP&E)**

American Samoa GOP blasts Dems for excluding Gabbard from debate

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa—The Republican Party of American Samoa is demanding that Democrat National Committee chair Debbie Wasserman-Schultz apologize to Rep. Tulsi Gabbard (D-Hawaii) for calling for more Democrat primary debates.

Although she represents Hawaii, Gabbard is a native-born Samoan who American Samoans count as one of their own. American Samoans are proud of her political achievements and her military service to our

country. She is the most prominent Samoan and highest ranking Democrat officeholder and party official in the country.

The Republican Party of American Samoa sincerely hopes that anti-Samoan discrimination has played no role in the decision to uninvite Gabbard to the debate. The current stage of Democrat candidates lacks the diversity and credibility represented by the Republican candidates.

Unlike the Democrats, the Republican National Commit-

tee seated Delegate Aumua Amata Radewagen (R-American Samoa), the most prominent and highest ranking Samoan Republican officeholder in the country and the most senior member of the RNC in the front section, fitting her role in the Party.

The Republican Party of American Samoa has no doubt that if this incident had occurred in Cleveland, especially if there were not diversity among our presidential candidates, the Democrats and the media would

be raising questions of racism. As the party that claims to embrace civil rights, the DNC should be ashamed of itself. This situation is very disheartening and hypocritical. The Republican Party of American Samoa stands with Gabbard, who expressed her opinions on calling for more sanctioned debates. To shut her out of the Las Vegas debate was disgraceful. The Republican Party of American Samoa plans on inviting Gabbard to the next Republican primary debate, where she will be seated prominently. **(RPAS)**

Attention, Honda & Acura Drivers.

Please be aware that, we have a National Safety Improvement Campaign and recall under way to repair airbag inflators at no cost to you, in certain Honda and Acura vehicles (listed below). To see if your vehicle needs immediate attention, please check its recall status by taking one of the following steps:

GO to recalls.honda.com for Honda drivers, or recalls.acura.com for Acura drivers.

CALL 1-800-999-1009 and choose option 4 for Honda drivers, or **1-800-382-2238** and choose option 4 for Acura drivers. Monday through Friday, 8:00AM to 5:00PM Pacific Standard Time.

VISIT Joeten Motors, the authorized Honda dealer in **Saipan** to have it serviced. Or call us at (670) 234-5562.

Honda is committed to addressing your needs and concerns. We will provide a free-of-charge rental car or loaner vehicle if there is a delay while getting your car repaired.

Almost everyone knows someone who owns a Honda. If you know a Honda or Acura driver who might own an affected vehicle, please encourage them to contact us.

We care about your safety, so please take action immediately.

Affected Models:

2001-2007 Honda Accord
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2002-2004 Honda Odyssey

2003-2008 Honda Pilot
2006 Honda Ridgeline
2003-2006 Acura MDX
2002-2003 Acura TL
2003 Acura CL
2005 Acura RL

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- 🌀 Map location 🌀
- 🌀 Total Area 🌀
- 🌀 Building area (if with existing building) 🌀
- 🌀 Title information 🌀
- 🌀 Asking price 🌀

Opinion

Hafa Adali

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MEMBER

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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

America's longest war isn't over yet

President Barack Obama came into office in January 2009 promising to end America's wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. He kept his word on Iraq, mostly, but announced Thursday he is delaying the U.S. pullout from Afghanistan past his last day in office in January 2017.

That means the next president, whoever it is, will inherit what is already America's longest war, 14 years and counting.

It is yet another painful lesson that there's no such thing as a guaranteed "exit strategy" from a military conflict, as if another reminder was needed.

Apparently it is. There are voices, inside and outside Congress, calling for further U.S. military involvement in Syria's bloody and complicated civil war.

While Obama is resisting a no-fly zone and ground troops seem out of the question, the U.S. did start this week airdropping weapons to Kurdish militias battling al-Qaida.

We ought to be very, very wary of doing more – of getting anywhere close to a proxy war with Russia. Russia is launching daily airstrikes to support Syrian dictator Bashar Assad, and Iran confirmed Wednesday that hundreds of its troops are fighting under that air cover.

During this week's Democratic presidential debate, Sen. Bernie Sanders was right to call Syria "a quagmire in a quagmire."

Afghanistan is looking more like one, too.

We didn't want Obama to backslide on the withdrawal, but it's understandable why he listened to U.S. commanders, given the situation on the ground.

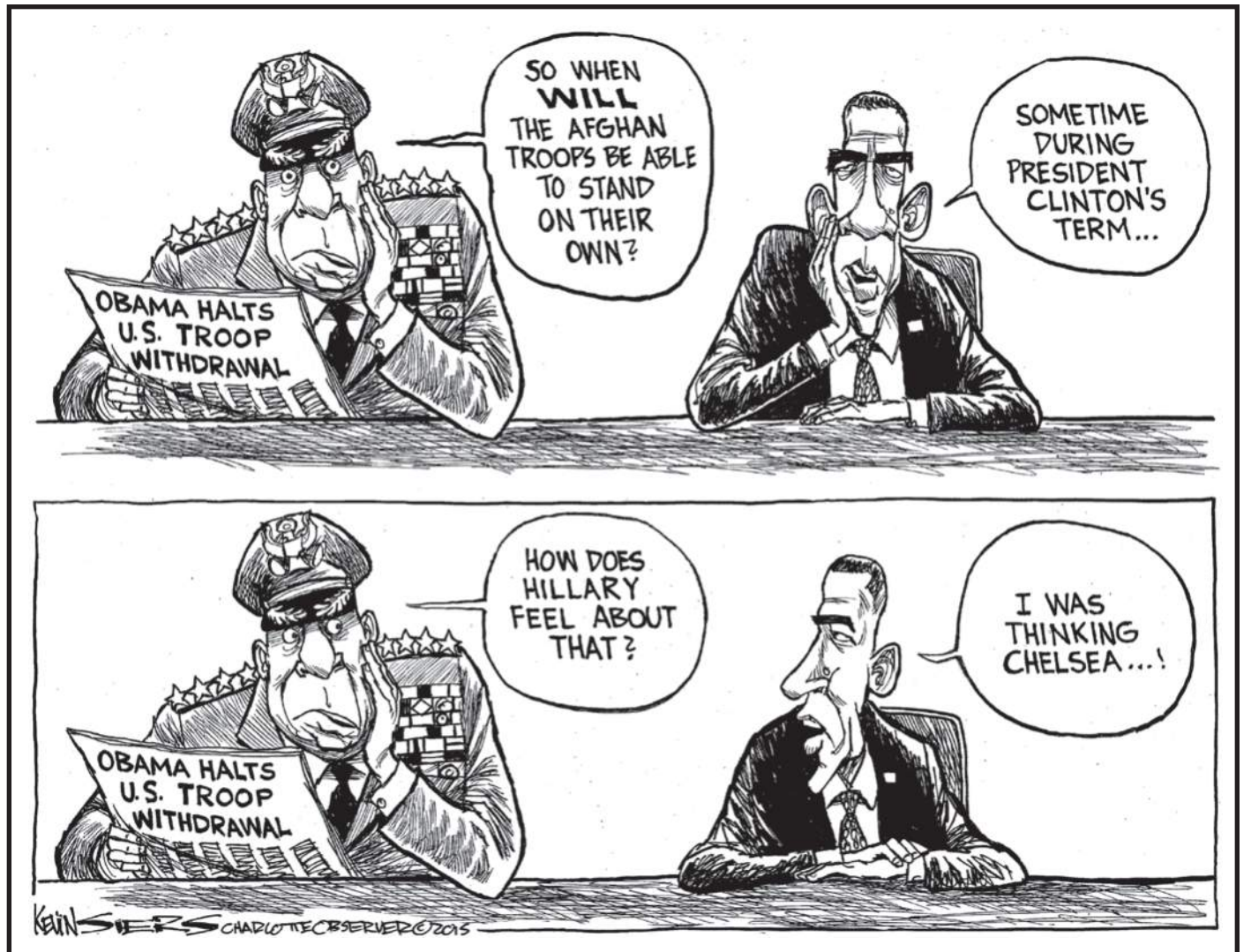
Despite extensive and costly U.S. training efforts, the Afghan military still can't defend its own country. That damning fact was made clear last month when the brutal Taliban took the major northern city of Kunduz, which they held until this week. According to the United Nations, the Taliban have a presence in more of the country than at any point since the U.S. invasion in 2001.

Under Obama's old plan, by early 2017, there would have been only 1,000 U.S. troops, based at the U.S. embassy in Kabul. Under the revised plan, the 9,800 troops in country will stay through most of next year. That number will drop to about 5,500 at the end of 2016 or early 2017. While training the Afghan military will be a core mission, U.S. forces will continue hunting al-Qaida and Islamic State fighters and protecting civilians.

So far, nearly 2,200 Americans have died in Afghanistan, 253 of them from California. Nearly 18,000 U.S. troops have been wounded.

How many more before America's longest war is finally and mercifully over?

(c)2015 The Sacramento Bee (Sacramento, Calif.)



\$50 versus \$200 gifts

Three months ago, Rep. Joseph "Leepan" T. Guerrero (R-Saipan) introduced a bill that would increase from \$50 to \$200 the value of nonmonetary gifts that CNMI government officials and employees—not only lawmakers—may accept. Guerrero's House Bill 19-84, in its current form, should either die a natural death in the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations or rejected by the full House in the event the committee recommends its passage.

At the very least, the bill should be improved upon if it were to clear the committee.

Guerrero's proposed cap increase takes into consideration inflation or the change in prices of goods and commodities since the CNMI Ethics Code Act was enacted on Jan. 22, 1993.

That's assuming that the gift offered and accepted won't influence a government official or employee in the performance of his duties.

Granted, that prices of consumer items have dramatically changed in the last 22 years. But how did Guerrero, in introducing HB 19-84, arrive at the proposed \$200 limit? Was this based on actual consumer price index reports that the Department of Commerce prepares? Or was the amount randomly selected? Has the JGO Committee, which is tasked to review the bill, consulted or asked for input from Commerce?

In other U.S. states, the limit on the value of nonmonetary gifts that state lawmakers and other officials may accept are adjusted by an amount based on actual price consumer index reports.

In Colorado, for example, the \$50 limit on the value of acceptable gifts is adjusted "by an amount based upon the percentage change over a four-year period in the United States bureau of labor statistics consumer price index." The first adjustment was done in the first quarter of 2011 and then every four years thereafter. As of 2011, the limit in Colorado is \$53, based on the consumer price index.

Again, in other state legislatures, they put a limit on the total amount that may be accepted as gift "in a calendar year." For example, a state lawmaker cannot accept a gift or anything of value having either a fair market value or aggregate actual cost greater than, say \$50, or \$200, "in any calendar year."

The CNMI law does not specify whether a lawmaker, for example, may accept a \$50 gift today and may accept another \$50 meal or gift the following day from the same business person or different business people.

A clarification or amendment to the CNMI Ethics Code Act to put a limit on the allowable value of gifts or anything of value "within a calendar year" would be more responsible and thoughtful than just focusing on whether the limit should be \$50 or \$200.

Otherwise, a lawmaker can interpret it as "okay" to accept a \$50 gift or a \$50 meal "every time" the same business person invites

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Haidee V. Eugenio covered politics, immigration, environment, business and other news beats as a reporter for Saipan Tribune and other news media in the CNMI for 16 years.



him and still believe he's not violating the ethics law.

Has the JGO Committee consulted with, or asked input from, the Office of the Public Auditor on Guerrero's bill? This bill should not move forward without taking into consideration OPA's comments and recommendations.

Guerrero, in his HB 19-84, is concerned that "prominent business people and dignitaries from the United States and other foreign countries have invited our legislators to enjoy meal and beverage accommodations on several occasions" wherein these businesspeople and dignitaries "tend to offer gifts and pay for meals" that exceed the current \$50 cap.

To begin with, a \$50 meal is already costly. A \$200 meal is definitely a steaks-and-lobsters meal and much more. And if a \$50 gift or meal makes a lawmaker or any government official uncomfortable or question his ethics, then good. Imagine what a \$200 meal can do?

"If you are offered a gift and have any doubt about whether you should accept it, you should consult with the Public Auditor," OPA said in its intended guide to the CNMI Ethics Code Act.

As a general rule, as pointed out by the Office of the Public Auditor, acceptance of a gift by a public official or public employee from persons, other than from a spouse, children or specified other relatives, "is unethical and not allowed."

The reason is that in serving the public interest, both public officials and public employees are expected to be free from the influence of private or business interests.

But then again, there are exemptions such as if the gift or anything of value is estimated at \$50 or less, and shouldn't influence a public servant's decision or conduct.

Exempted from the prohibition are informational materials such as books, reports and calendars, a personalized plaque or trophy with a value not exceeding \$500, a reportable campaign contribution, or something received that is not used "but within 30 days is either returned to the donor or delivered to a charitable organization, and is not claimed as a charitable contribution for

See \$50 on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Typhoon II

One Aug. 2 snuck in middle of the night, unleashing its first fury at about 11pm and again, in the very early morning. The day after, families were discovered cowering in the corner of their former dwellings, just happy to stay dry as their tin roofs were blown off the rafters and the wide-eyed 2-year-old shivered through the morning hours wondering what happened.

its own water well and power generator, so I managed to take a daily shower when the rest of the island liberally dabbed themselves with *toilette du cologne*.

With Typhoon II, Gov. Eloy advised all to stay home and the island took no chances. The hardware stores had folks getting materials to secure dwellings so it would not fly out easy, and the groceries did brisk business on pantry supplies. Fresh produce sold out two

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



Fishermen at Sugar Dock.

JAIME R. VERGARA



A memorable selfie.

JAIME R. VERGARA

What was thought to be just a depression turned into a storm, upgraded on record to a severe category as the atmospheric authority reviewed wind speed. Of course, it didn't make any difference to the numerous folks who sought public shelter after the storm. They counted damaged belongings, some losing all they accumulated in the island economy they came to earn for from other regions. FEMA picked up cost of lost belongings of some but definitely not the housing, even when occupants proved they owned the place.

The hardest hit were the CWs; one petitioned wife, three kids and the grannies, to come live in island paradise sheltered by the Stars and Stripes over the western Pacific skies, a rosy picture. No picnic in the park but their future felt tweak-able more than the one they left behind.

Mid-October, we were alerted to a replay. My apartment complex took no chance; it put up the storm boards. This time, we watched Champi the champ cast her wind and rain before our eyes. Rain poured down 9pm Thursday night. I watched the silhouette of coco trees sway and the fronds dance like martial artists on aerobic practice.

Gusts of wind sputtered through the night, not strong enough to bend the coco or snap branches off the instant forest trees around our compound. Even the previous gray vines that quickly scampered up trees a few days after Soudelor covered everything with their green leaves.

I woke up early, customary at my age to making two or three trips to the loo (I am being conservative here) after being extra generous with the tea—jasmine, the pekoe grange, Darjeeling high lands—i.e., when electricity to boil the brew was on rather than just soaking the Lipton in tepid water.

After Typhoon I, the island went without power and water in days that followed. I was thankful to have chosen an apartment that had



A Beach Road pathway biker is stumped.

JAIME R. VERGARA

days before the typhoon for those with deep freezers and generators. To the *hoi polloi* and *moi*, things that spoiled were a luxury. Canned goods displayed on the store aisles were from where I picked cholesterol and toxic preservatives. Island paradise prepared for fierce wind and rain, stocking beverage and food. I am a big tummy *da duzi* but hardly a dummy!

School was out Friday so all the young voices shrieked all the over the complex where the acoustics delights any cathedral novice unaccustomed to modulating voice. By 1pm Friday, the place went still as Mama Nature took over. The typhoon was predicted to be at its strongest from there on, though the typhoon center was north toward Anatahan. It was no mean wind and rain that came for the

Saipan visit; it kept the vines undulating like a human wave at a bleacher's display, for a good five hours. The rain did clean the car's exterior sans car wash's salty water!

One *Tribune* reporter went home, leaving a bare spot in the lineup. I told the editor that I will sub in the meantime and chase the news starting Friday. *Nyet!* Not if Maria under the babushka had her way. I was kept indoors for a day!

Typhoon I and II held back Chinese clientele off their Saipan English immersion tours; 25-year-old business partner in Shenyang, China will come for a month to strategize how to get our group humming to island winds earlier than May 2016 when China students are free to take summer vacation.

The typhoons provided respite even as we are behind schedule setting office. Timelines are human creation, no big deal when broken. It is water seepage under the front door and around the walkway windows during the storm that I did not anticipate, but what are typhoons if they do not force us to learn to survive?

I went out early Saturday morning with a camera expecting to document damage. It showed very little save the pictures (see *the day after*) tell a tale of damage still from Soudelor exacerbated by Champi with a deft touch. The lagoon pathway had debris cleared before the day was over; the battered roof of a Bangla home repaired quickly on community effort. A lone tourist took her selfie with the wild surf as background at Saipan lagoon.

Sunrays peeked Sunday. I brace for a Typhoon III. I understand it is brewing in the horizon.

\$50

From Page 10

tax purposes."

A gift may also be accepted on behalf of the CNMI by any official or employee, or their spouse or minor child, provided they report it to the Office of the Public Auditor and Finance, which will add it to the inventory of CNMI property. Whether OPA received any such report from anyone in the government is a guessing game at this time.

When then acting governor Benjamin T. Manglona signed the Ethics Code Act in 1993, he acknowledged that the measure needs to be further reviewed and amended to, among other things, include stricter standards and that "it should be worded, as much as possible, in simple, clear language, to be easily understood by all." Despite having a problematic bill before him, the acting governor said signing such bill into law "is still a great step toward a more responsible government."

Clarifying and strengthening the Ethics Code Act's provisions is long overdue. But any such responsible and meaningful amendments to make the law better takes a lot more than just raising the gift value limit of \$50 because of inflation. For example, making the statement of financial interests of elected and appointed government officials filed with OPA every year be made readily available for public inspection.




Downed flame tree.

JAIME R. VERGARA

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲87° ▼76°


TUESDAY



Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲86° ▼77°


WEDNESDAY



Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲86° ▼77°


THURSDAY



Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲88° ▼77°

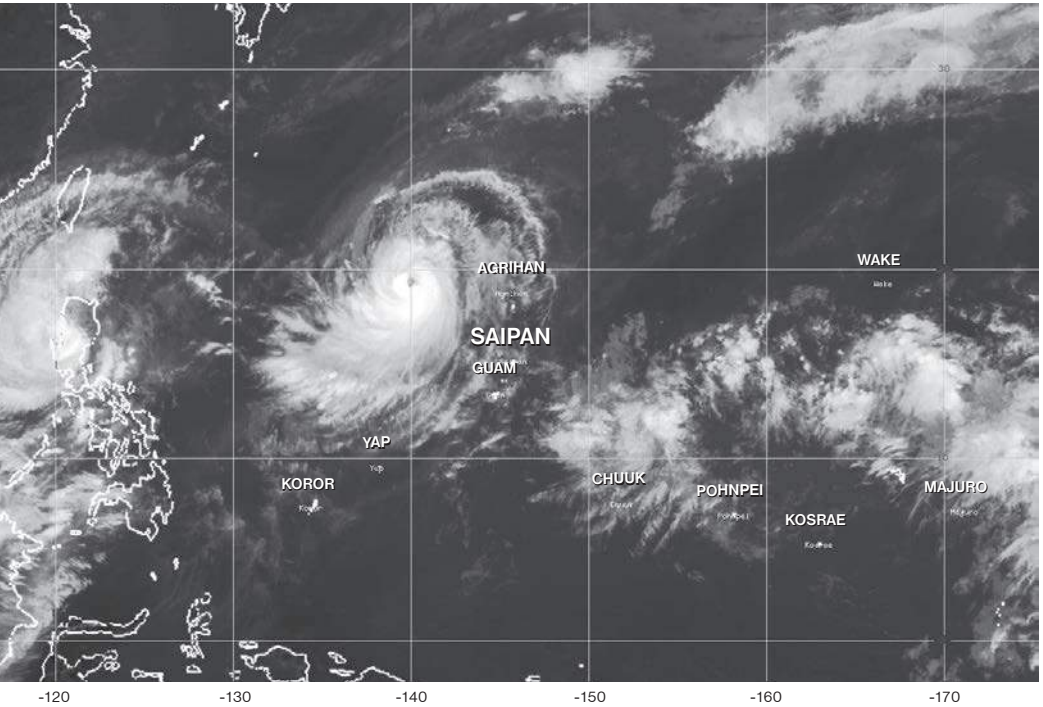
FRIDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.

▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image




PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2015
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Champi (25W) is centered 475 miles northwest of Saipan at 19N140E moving north-northwest at 5 mph with maximum sustained winds of 115 mph. Heavy rain and a few thunderstorms are within 100 miles of 18N141 otherwise scattered to numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms north of Yap and near the Marianas are between 11N and 22N from 134E to 145E. For more information on Typhoon Champi, see bulletins issued by Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. A monsoon trough curves southeastward from Typhoon Champi at 19N140E to a weak circulation centered north of Pohnpei at 12N157E then runs across the northern Marshall Islands to a disturbance centered near 8N180. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms from northern Chuuk state to Pohnpei state are within 200 miles of a line from 7N159E to 13N150E farther east. Patchy areas of scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are within 250 miles of a line from 14N160E to 12N173E to 7N180.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼77
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼80
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼79
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼79

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Windy	▲63	▼53
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼53
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼74
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼76
London	Cloudy	▲57	▼44
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲76	▼60
Manila	Thundershowers	▲86	▼77
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲84	▼60
Miami	Showers	▲82	▼74
New York	Sunny	▲55	▼46
Osaka	Sunny	▲79	▼58
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲57	▼46
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲75	▼57
Rome	Showers	▲71	▼59
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼47
San Francisco	Sunny	▲70	▼56
Seoul	Sunny	▲77	▼51
Tokyo	Sunny	▲73	▼58
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲57	▼42



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
6:26 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
1:32 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
7:11 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
11:51 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:09 AM	5:55 PM
Tuesday	6:10 AM	5:54 PM
Wednesday	6:10 AM	5:54 PM
Thursday	6:10 AM	5:53 PM
Friday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Tuesday	11:54 AM	11:40 PM
Wednesday	12:45 PM	
Thursday	1:36 PM	12:36 AM
Friday	2:25 PM	1:34 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2015											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily			UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily		
UA5039	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota			UA5039	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7		
UA5038	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6			UA5038	12:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota		
UA5078	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily			UA5077	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily		
UA5072	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily			UA5079	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA5039	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA5038	12:15pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA5039	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA5038	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6		
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)						PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT			DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	twice weekly			DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily		
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily			DL288	8:55pm	1:30am+1	twice weekly		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1			7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6		
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7		
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7			OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7		
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5			OZ625	8:20pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily		
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7								
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN			DL276/288	9:20am	1:30am+1	twice weekly via NRT		
OZ626/701	3:20am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			UA190/5079	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	twice weekly via NRT			UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/5038	10:25pm	1:50pm+1	1, via GUM-Rota		
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5039/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM			UA184/5079	10:25pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5039/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM		
						UA184/5038	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota		
						UA184/5077	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM		
						UA184/5079	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ626/721	3:20am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM		
UA5039/179	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM			UA180/5038	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota		
UA5038/179	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM			UA180/5077	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
						UA180/5079	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.											
TINIAN TO SAIPAN				SAIPAN TO TINIAN				SAIPAN TO ROTA			
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat		7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily		7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	
				8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily					
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily		9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily		4:00PM	4:		

No Social Security cost-of-living adjustment for 2016

With consumer prices down over the past year, monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income benefits for nearly 65 million Americans will not automatically increase in 2016.

The Social Security Act provides for an automatic increase in Social Security and SSI benefits if there is an increase in inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). The period of consideration includes the third quarter of the last year a cost-of-living adjustment was made to the third quarter of the current year. As determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there was no increase in the CPI-W from the third quarter of 2014 to the third quarter of 2015. Therefore,

under existing law, there can be no COLA in 2016.

Other adjustments that would normally take effect based on changes in the national average wage index also will not take effect in January 2016. Since there is no COLA, the statute also prohibits a change in the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax, as well as the retirement earnings test exempt amounts. These amounts will remain unchanged in 2016.

The Department of Health and Human Services has not yet announced Medicare premium changes for 2016. Should there be an increase in the Medicare Part B premium, the law contains a "hold harmless" provision that protects approximately 70 percent of Social Security beneficiaries

from paying a higher Part B premium, in order to avoid reducing their net Social Security benefit. Those not protected include higher income beneficiaries subject to an income-

adjusted Part B premium and beneficiaries newly entitled to Part B in 2016. In addition, beneficiaries who have their Medicare Part B premiums paid by state medical as-

sistance programs will see no change in their Social Security benefit. The state will be required to pay any Medicare Part B premium increase.

Information about Medicare

changes for 2016, when available, will be found at www.medicare.gov.

For additional information, go to www.socialsecurity.gov/cola. **(SSA)**

USCG medevacs man from Midway

HONOLULU—A 45-year-old man is receiving treatment in Oahu after being medically evacuated from Midway Atoll last Saturday.

An HC-130 Hercules airplane crew from Air Station Barbers Point flew more than 1,300 miles from Oahu to Midway to complete the medevac of a man suffering from severe abdominal pain.

Watchstanders at the Coast Guard Joint Rescue Command Center Honolulu received a medevac request from Dan Clarke, the atoll's refuge manager, regarding the contractor.

The duty Coast Guard flight surgeon was briefed and recommended a medevac based on the patient's condition. The Hercules crew launched from Air Station Barbers Point

at 1:30am Saturday.

The Coast Guard partnered with a Disaster Medical Assistance Team from Honolulu who provided inflight care.

The patient was safely transferred at 5:50am to awaiting EMS at Air Station Barbers Point for further transport to Queen's Medical Center. He is reported to be in stable condition.

"This mission demonstrates the flexibility, professionalism and dedication of Coast Guard crews who are ready to respond to any call for assistance," said Lt. Nic Iannarone, command duty officer, Coast Guard 14th District command center. "We were able to provide coordinated medical assistance to an individual in need through our continued partnership with the medical professionals of DMAT." **(USCG)**

FBI seeks man's identity for a possible child endangerment



The unknown male appears to be a white male in his 50s or 60s. He has short-cut white/gray hair and a receding hairline. **FBI**

The FBI requests the public's help in identifying the unknown male depicted in images being made available to the media. Investigators believe the individual may be able to help them identify and locate a teenager who may be in danger. The unidentified man may be traveling through California or neighboring states.

The unknown male was last seen driving a car with stolen Alabama license plate 58DZ806 on the rear of the vehicle. The blue car was similar in make and model to a Mazda Protégé. When last seen, on Sept. 29, the vehicle was missing the right rear hubcap and did not have a front license plate.

The unknown male appears to be a white male in his 50s or 60s. He has short-cut white/gray hair and a receding hairline. He was last seen with trimmed salt-and-pepper facial hair. The unknown male can be seen in the images wearing a dark colored T-shirt, blue jeans, white Nike high-top tennis shoes, and black prescription glasses. He has made claims to be from Ha-

waii, according to individuals who were in contact with law enforcement, and might be seen panhandling or sleeping in improvised shelters.

The unknown male may be in the company of a white female teenager. The unknown female was last seen with waist-length brown hair and wearing a brown t-shirt, blue jeans, and brown Nike tennis shoes.

The current whereabouts of the unknown male are unknown. On Sept. 28 and 29, 2015, the unknown male and the female teenager were seen in Laguna Beach, California. On Sept. 12, 2015, they were seen at the Crossroads Shopping Center in Meridian, Mississippi. The unknown male was possibly in Bessemer, Alabama on Sept. 11, 2015. It is likely the male and female drove from Mississippi to California between Sept. 12 and 28, 2015.

If you have information regarding the identity of the unknown male, contact your nearest FBI Office. In Los Angeles, the FBI may be reached 24 hours a day at 310 477-6565. **(FBI)**

The Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence
and the Family Violence Task Force
invite you to get **POWERED** to end domestic violence
during a fun afternoon of arts, activities and celebration of our united community.

DAY OF UNITY

Saturday, October 24, 2015, Ragman Community Center

ENTERTAINMENT and KIDS ACTIVITIES
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Featuring Out of the Ordinary Band,
Joshua Castro,
SMADS, DYS
and Coconut
Jamboree

MEN'S WALK AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

3:30 pm - Registration
4:00 pm - Walk

Calling on all men to show respect for and solidarity with women in our community by walking in skirts/lava lavas.

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Join us honor and remember the lives we have lost to domestic violence.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

For more information, call 234-3878 or 664-4583/4. For news and updates, check out **NMCADSV** on Facebook, Twitter@**EndViolenceNMI** and Instagram@**nmcadsv**.



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Business

Takata air bag problem widens to some 2015 GM vehicles

DETROIT (AP)—The deadly problem with exploding Takata air bag inflators continues to spread to newer vehicles, this time hitting a small number of 2015 General Motors cars and SUVs.

GM is recalling more than 400 vehicles because the side air bag inflators could rupture and send shrapnel into drivers and passengers, according to the company and documents posted Saturday by the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The GM recall is the latest in a problem that continues to widen with no end in sight. U.S. regulators have warned that more manufacturers and newer

This Oct. 22, 2014, file photo shows the North American headquarters of automotive parts supplier Takata in Auburn Hills, Mich.

models are likely to be recalled. Eight people have been killed worldwide because of the faulty inflators and more than 100 have been hurt.

So far, about 23.4 million Takata driver and passenger air bag inflators have been recalled on 19.2 million U.S. vehicles sold by 11 different companies, including Honda and Fiat Chrysler. Last month, the NHTSA sent letters to seven more



companies seeking information on models with Takata inflators and warning that the recalls could grow.

Takata's inflators use ammonium nitrate to create a small explosion that inflates the air bags in a crash. But Takata has said the chemical can degrade inside inflators that are exposed to high temperatures and airborne humidity for prolonged periods.

That can cause the chemical to burn too fast, blowing apart a metal canister designed to contain the explosion. "All Takata-made ammonium nitrate inflators are within the scope of our investigation," agency spokesman Gordon Trowbridge said Saturday. "If NHTSA determines that additional recalls are necessary to protect public safety, we will take action."

Wal-Mart, others speed up deliveries to shoppers

BETHLEHEM, Pa.—Christmas won't come early this year, but the gifts might.

Just in time for the winter holiday shopping season, Amazon, Wal-Mart, Macy's and other retailers are working behind the scenes to make sure they can deliver online orders to shoppers faster.

Retailers are building bigger warehouses—some the size of 20 football fields—to handle shipments. They're also sending orders to shoppers directly from their stores and using sophisticated software that tells them the quickest, cheapest way to get orders shipped. And Amazon is cutting the time it takes to process an order from hours to minutes by using robots to pull

items for shipment in its warehouses.

It's a race for time by retailers as more people shop online. U.S. online sales are expected to increase 12 percent to \$371 billion this year, accounting for 10 percent of overall retail sales, says Forrester Research. But as online shopping grows, so does the impatience of shoppers who want their orders fast.

Traditional brick-and-mortar stores are trying to catch up to Amazon.com, which set the standard for speed with its two-day delivery for members of its Prime loyalty program who pay \$99 a year. But even Amazon feels pressure to please customers who have little tolerance for lengthy delivery waits.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Hyundai recalls 27,700 2011 Sonatas and Elantras

NEW YORK (AP)—Hyundai is recalling 27,700 midsize and compact cars in the U.S. because salt damage could cause the cars' front coil springs to fracture. The recall covers some Elantras and Sonatas, which are among Hyundai's most popular models. The affected cars include Elantras made from November 2010 through March 2011 and Sonatas made from December 2009 through February 2010 that were sold or are currently registered in the so-called salt belt: Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Washington, D.C.


Former VW boss Winterkorn quits as head of holding company

BERLIN (AP)—Former Volkswagen CEO Martin Winterkorn is stepping down as head of a holding company that technically controls a majority in the German automaker, weeks after his resignation in the wake of the emissions-rigging scandal. Porsche Automobil Holding SE, via which the Piech and Porsche families own more than 50 percent of Volkswagen, said


in a brief statement Saturday that it "reached an agreement with Prof. Dr. Martin Winterkorn that he ceases his function as member and chairman of the executive board of Porsche SE by the end of Oct. 31." Winterkorn will be replaced as the holding company's CEO Nov. 1 by Volkswagen's new supervisory board chairman, Hans Dieter Poetsch.

The world's first female sex drug could spur similar meds

WASHINGTON (AP)—Most women with low sexual desire won't rush to get the first prescription drug to boost female libido when it becomes available on Saturday. But they may have more options down the road. Addyi is a daily medication that can't be taken with alcohol or certain other drugs, which will likely limit its use. But experts believe those restrictions could spur development of better treatments for women's sexual problems after more than a decade of neglect by most of the world's large drugmakers. Kim Wallen, a psychology professor at Emory University, says Addyi represents a historic milestone that may open the door to more drugs targeting desire in men and women. Where Viagra and other men's erectile dysfunction drugs work by increasing blood flow to the genitals, Addyi acts on brain chemicals associated with desire.



Are You



(A) Not attending any school

(B) Not younger than 16 or older than age 24 and

(C) Meet one or more of the following:

1. A school dropout
2. A youth who is within the age of compulsory school attendance, but has not attended school for at least the most recent complete school year calendar quarter.
School year calendar is based on how the local school district defines its school year quarters.
3. A recipient of a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent who is a low-income individual and is either basic skills deficient or an English language learner
4. An individual who is subject to the juvenile or adult justice system
5. A homeless individual, a runaway, an individual who is in foster care or has aged out of the foster care system, a child eligible for assistance under Section 477 of the Social Security Act, or an individual who is an out-of-home placement
6. An individual who is pregnant or parenting
7. An individual with a disability
8. A low-income individual who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment

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Nation

Ex-members of church where teens were beaten talk of decline

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—Former members of the upstate New York church where two teens were viciously beaten paint a picture of a once vibrant and joyous house of worship that declined into a place of fear and intimidation under new leadership.

"When I first arrived, it was warm and welcoming. It was encouraging. It was helpful," said Chadwick Handville, a massage therapist in Phoenix, Arizona, who left the Word of Life Christian Church in June 2000 after 10 years that included a stint as a worship leader and trustee. Things went downhill after founder Jerry Irwin returned from some time away and reclaimed his position as pastor, Handville said.

"What was off the wall was

his attitude toward others," Handville said. "It wasn't happy. He accused every male of lusting after his wife."

Handville said Irwin's preaching was filled with personal attacks on parishioners, whom he forced to work long hours renovating the Irwin family's apartment on the third floor of the former school building that houses the church in New Hartford, which is 100 miles west of Albany.

"He did have good points," Handville said. "Through him I was able to memorize half the Bible. He taught me a lot. What he failed to teach me was how to use what I read, how to treat people."

Handville said many current and former church members are

afraid to talk publicly about the church for fear of recrimination.

In a letter to the Post-Standard of Syracuse, former congregant

Nathan Ames said the church started out as a fast-growing Pentecostal church but declined after Irwin reclaimed leader-

ship. Ames described Irwin as controlling and intimidating.

Since Irwin's fatal stroke several years ago, his wife, Traci,

and their children—Tiffanie, Daniel and Joseph—have been in charge. Ames said they continued in the style of the founder.

Oregon college shooting victim describes gunman's rampage

ROSEBURG, Ore. (AP)—Chris Mintz, an Oregon college student celebrated as a hero for running toward danger while a gunman opened fire at Umpqua Community College, says the shooter showed no emotion as he shot Mintz five times.

Mintz shared his story in a lengthy statement posted Friday night on Facebook. He describes his experiences in excruciating detail, from the nor-

malcy of the morning, through the excruciating pain of being shot until the moment his friend, a medic, arrived.

"He was so nonchalant through it all, like he was playing a video game and showed no emotion," Mintz wrote of the shooter. "The shots knocked me to the ground and felt like a truck hit me."

Mintz wrote that he hesitated to share his account out of fear

that it would be too painful for some people to read, and he offered an apology to anyone negatively affected.

He says the first responders and hospital workers are "the real heroes, they saved us." Since the story of Mintz's bravery became public, an online campaign has raised more than \$800,000 to help with medical bills and his expenses while he recovers.

On Oct. 1, Mintz was in an ad-

jacent classroom in Snyder Hall when everyone heard yelling. When they heard gunfire, Mintz held the door as everyone fled.

"We all took off running down the breezeway toward the library, a boy and I collided while running because of the chaos and it knocked me to the ground. A counselor kept screaming that someone needed to tell the people in the library, and I told her I do it," Mintz wrote.



AP

David Morey, right, a member of the Word of Life church, leaves New Hartford Town Court on Friday, Oct. 16, 2015, in New Hartford, N.Y.

Small creeks became deadly torrents in South Carolina floods

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP)—Sampson Pringle stood on the roof of his stalled truck on an unfamiliar road in the pouring rain. With water rising around him, he told his fiancée not to worry because he saw help coming.

Two days later, after the historic flood waters started to recede, his body had washed up on someone's lawn, hundreds of feet away from his truck.

Pringle was one of 10 people who drowned in the flash floods in the Columbia area from Oct. 3-5. Their common denominator: All were in their cars, caught off guard by rising water in places they likely didn't expect to flood. Some were out trying to help others.

"Some were going to work. Some were going to someone else's aid. Some people were

just caught by surprise. Unfortunately, they all ended up the same place," said Richland County Coroner Gary Watts, who investigated nine of the drownings. "Just stay off the roads when it might be flooding. Water is much more powerful than you might think."

The victims drowned on little-known waterways like Crane Creek or 25-Mile Creek. A few died on waterways so small they have no name. Their bodies weren't found for hours or sometimes days in the chaos happening across Columbia where an inch of rain fell every 30 minutes for hours and hours. Several smaller earthen dams broke, but engineers still haven't been able to piece together which ones failed first and started the chain reaction.



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Community Guidance Center

Prevention Unit





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Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified women, minorities, and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Asia

Typhoon Koppu weakens but still dangerous in PH

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Slow-moving Typhoon Koppu weakened Sunday after blowing ashore with fierce wind in the northeastern Philippines, toppling trees and knocking out power and communications. Officials said there were no immediate reports of casualties.

More than 14,000 villagers have been evacuated from the typhoon's path, including in towns prone to flash floods and landslides and coastal villages at risk from destructive storm surges, said Alexander Pama, who heads the disaster-response agency that has overseen evacuation and pre-deployment of rescue contingents.

After slamming into Casiguran town in Aurora province shortly after midnight, the typhoon weakened slightly and slowed considerably, hemmed in by the Sierra Madre mountain range and a high pressure area in the country's north and another typhoon far out in the Pacific in the east, govern-



A dog seeks shelter in a small boat which has been placed by the sea wall under a slight rain and wind brought by Typhoon Koppu Sunday, Oct. 18, 2015 in Manila, Philippines. AP

ment forecaster Gladys Saludes said.

By mid-Sunday, the typhoon had blown westward and further inland and was whirling over rice-growing Nueva Ecija province east of Aurora with sustained winds of 150

kilometers (93 miles) and gusts of up to 185 kph (115 mph). Satellite images show that the typhoon appeared to be losing its eye, a sign of its dissipating strength, according to acting weather bureau chief Esperanza Cayan.

India, US and Japan hold naval exercises under China's gaze

NEW DELHI (AP)—Naval warships, aircraft carriers and submarines from the U.S., India and Japan steamed into the Bay of Bengal on Saturday as they took part in joint military exercises off India's east coast, signaling the growing strategic ties among the three countries as they face up to a rising China.

The sea drills, part of the six-day-long Malabar exercises, will cover the full spectrum of naval maneuvers, including military-to-military coordination and anti-submarine warfare, according to a joint statement.

The U.S. has deployed the aircraft carrier USS Theodore

Roosevelt, a missile cruiser and a nuclear-powered submarine for the annual exercises, which end Monday.

"India and Japan both are fantastic partners of the United States," Capt. Craig Clapper, commanding officer of the USS Theodore Roosevelt, told reporters on board the ship. "We share a great deal in common, and we certainly have very strong economic, military and political relationships and friendships with India and Japan."

A Chinese state-run newspaper, however, cautioned India to guard against being drawn into an anti-China alliance.

"The China-India relationship

is on a sound track, and healthy ties are beneficial to both countries," the Global Times said. "India should be vigilant to any intentions of roping it into an anti-China camp."

Almost simultaneously, China's People's Liberation Army and the Indian army are conducting joint counter-terrorism exercises in southwestern China.

China has long been wary of joint maritime exercises between India and the United States, but is especially concerned now, with Beijing involved in a host of disputes with Japan, South Korea and several of its Southeast Asian neighbors in the South China Sea.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Police arrest 2 teenagers in rape of toddler in India

NEW DELHI (AP)—Two teenagers have been arrested and were being questioned Sunday for allegedly raping a toddler, in the latest incident of sexual violence against a young child in the Indian capital. Police had formed 15 teams and questioned more than 250 residents of the western Delhi neighborhood where the 2 1/2-year-old girl was raped and left bleeding in a park on Friday night, police said. The two 17-year-old boys were arrested late Saturday, said Dependra Pathak, a top police officer. The toddler was playing outside her home on Friday when she went missing during a 10-minute power outage in the neighborhood. Family members found the child lying unconscious and bleeding in a park three hours later.

More than 180 ethnic Rohingya flee shelter in Indonesia

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia (AP)—A total of 182 ethnic Rohingya have fled their encampment in Indonesia's Aceh province, with government officials suspecting they may have been persuaded by human traffickers to flee, an official said Saturday. An inspection Friday by the local government in coordination with both

the International Organization for Migration and the U.N. Refugee Agency found that only 140 out of about 322 Rohingya remained at the refugee shelter in Blang Adoe village in northern Aceh, said Amir Hamzah, the spokesman for the North Aceh district government. "We suspect they were persuaded by agents (of human traffickers) who promised to be able to transport them to Malaysia, because many have their family members there in Malaysia," Hamzah said.

Man saves 2 Norwegian bird watchers sinking in Thailand mud

BANGKOK (AP)—A construction worker on a fishing trip dramatically rescued two Norwegian bird watchers who were sinking into a mudflat in southern Thailand, lying down in the mud to allow the pair to use his body to pry themselves to safety. The incident Friday morning in Krabi province was caught on camera by an amateur photographer from Bangkok, who posted the video on his Facebook page. The posting got at least 1.6 million views, with many showering the rescuer with praise. The Norwegian pair, whose names were not released, had taken their cameras to a river estuary at first light Friday, but the mudflats proved to be far less firm than they had thought. Very quickly, they found themselves sinking.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive DirectorREQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-16-001

WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified insurance firms to provide workers' compensation insurance and administration for CUC's employees throughout the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and when on official business away from the CNMI.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one RFP package set. Prospective Proposers for this RFP must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division by 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 29, 2015 to be considered.

One (1) original and Six (6) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "*CUC-RFP-16-001, Workers' Compensation & Administration*", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than November 17, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 30, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Procurement Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

JOHN RIEGEL
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

World

Israel: 4 Palestinian attackers shot dead in latest violence

JERUSALEM (AP)—Palestinian assailants carried out five stabbing attacks in Jerusalem and the West Bank on Saturday, authorities said, as a month-long outburst of violence showed no signs of abating. The unrest came despite new security measures that have placed troops and checkpoints around Palestinian neighborhoods in east Jerusalem. At least four assailants were killed.

In Jerusalem, where most of the violence has taken place, police spokeswoman Luba Samri said a 16-year-old Palestinian drew a knife on officers early Saturday when they asked for identification after a bystander said he was behaving suspiciously. She said the officers shot and killed the teenager after he tried to stab them. The incident took place near where two Palestinian men boarded a bus earlier in the week and began shooting and stabbing passengers, killing two.

Later, another assailant tried to stab a policeman on the outskirts of Jerusalem, but struck his bulletproof vest and did not injure him. The assailant was

shot and wounded. Police said when an officer approached to treat the attacker, he pulled out a second knife and attempted to attack him. He was then shot and killed.

The other three stabbing attacks Saturday took place in the West Bank city of Hebron, a frequent flashpoint where a few hundred Jewish settlers live in close proximity to tens of thousands of Palestinians.

In the first incident, Israel's military said an Israeli pedestrian shot and killed a Palestinian who tried to stab him. Later, police said a Palestinian woman stabbed a female officer at a border police base in Hebron and lightly injured her before the officer shot her dead. At night, the army said a soldier was stabbed and moderately wounded before the attacker was shot. There were no immediate details on his condition.

Over the past month, eight Israelis have been killed in Palestinian attacks, most of them stabbings. In that time, 40 Palestinians were killed by Israeli fire, including 19 labeled by Israel as attackers, and the rest in



A relative kisses the body of Iyad Awawdeh, 26, during his funeral in the West Bank village of Dora, near Hebron, Saturday, Oct. 17, 2015. AP

clashes with Israeli troops.

Israel has taken unprecedented steps in response to the attacks. It has deployed soldiers in Israeli cities and erected concrete barriers outside some Arab neighborhoods of east Jerusalem, where most of the attackers came from. Ordinary citizens have also increasingly taken up arms to protect themselves.

On Saturday, roadblocks on the outskirts of Arab neighborhoods caused massive traffic jams, with some frustrated

motorists saying they had been waiting for several hours. On the edge of the Issawiyeh neighborhood, drivers honked their horns at a group of Israeli police and paramilitary border police who were taking their time checking each car and asking some of the younger Palestinians to lift up their shirts to show they were not armed.

Palestinians said the roadblocks are collective punishment and ineffective in deterring attackers since those with

bad intentions would try to reach Jewish neighborhoods through dirt roads anyway.

"People are very upset," said Emad Obeid, a 30-year-old taxi driver. "This will just cause new attacks."

Most of the attacks on Israelis have been carried out by Palestinians with no known ties to militant groups, in many cases seemingly inspired by messages on social media.

The daily attacks have caused a sense of panic across Israel



and raised fears that the region is on the cusp of a new round of heavy violence. Palestinians say the violence is the result of nearly 50 years of Israeli occupation, more than two decades of failed peace efforts and a lack of hope for gaining independence anytime soon.

The violence erupted a month ago over the Jewish New Year, fueled by rumors that Israel was plotting to take over Jerusalem's most sensitive holy site, a hilltop compound revered by Jews as the Temple Mount and home to the Al-Aqsa Mosque, Islam's third-holiest shrine and a key national symbol for the Palestinians.

WORLD BRIEFS

Mexican drug lord flown to Sinaloa mountains after escape

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Fugitive drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman was flown to a mountainous region of his home state of Sinaloa following his daring July 11 escape from prison through a mile-long tunnel, a federal official said Saturday. Based on this information, the search for the world's most wanted drug boss has focused in recent weeks on a rugged area that stretches from Sinaloa into neighboring Durango state, part of Mexico's infamous Golden Triangle drug-producing region that is considered Guzman's home turf, said the official, who agreed to give details of the operation only if not quoted by name. The official said that after Guzman's escape from the maximum-security prison where he was being held not far from Mexico City, the leader of the powerful Sinaloa Cartel was taken to the central state of Queretaro. From there, he was flown in a small plane to the Sinaloa mountains, the official said.

Hundreds of Sudanese troops arrive in Yemen's Aden

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—Hundreds of Sudanese troops arrived in Yemen's southern port city of Aden on Saturday, the first batch of an expected 10,000 reinforcements for the Saudi-led coalition fighting the country's Shiite Houthis

rebels, security officials said. The troops' mission is to secure Aden, which has seen an uptick in drive-by shootings of pro-government troop leaders and officials as extremists became more entrenched in the city in recent weeks, the pro-government security officials said. Yemen's fighting pits the Houthis and allied army units against forces loyal to the coalition-backed internationally recognized government as well as southern separatists and other militants.

Voting for a new parliament begins in Egypt

CAIRO (AP)—Egyptians on Sunday began voting in the nation's first parliamentary election since the military's 2013 ouster of Egypt's first freely elected president and the election a year later of the general who removed him. Egyptians residing abroad began voting Saturday and will continue Sunday, the first of two days of voting in 15 provinces, including Cairo's twin city of Giza and the Mediterranean port city of Alexandria. About 27 of Egypt's registered 54 million voters reside in the 15 provinces where voting is taking place Sunday. Voting in Egypt's 13 other provinces, including the capital Cairo, will be on Nov. 22-23. Each stage of the staggered vote will be followed by a runoff. Final results for the 596-seat parliament will be announced in early December.

Thousands of migrants surge into Slovenia in new route

PETISOVCI, Slovenia (AP)—Thousands of migrants surged into tiny Slovenia on Saturday as an alternative route opened in Europe for them after Hungary sealed its border for their free flow, adding another hurdle in their frantic flight from wars and poverty toward what they hope is a better life in Western Europe.

The closure of Hungary's border with Croatia early Saturday caused redirection of thousands of people—including women and small children soaked in cold rain—further west toward Croatia's border with Slovenia.

Senior al-Qaida commander killed in an airstrike in Syria

BEIRUT (AP)—An airstrike has killed a top al-Qaida commander and two other fighters in Syria, activists said Saturday, but it was not immediately clear whether it was carried out by the U.S.-led coalition or Russian warplanes.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said Abdul Mohsen Abdallah Ibrahim al-Charekh, a Saudi better known as Sanafi al-Nasr, was killed Thursday in an airstrike near the northern Syrian town of Dana, along with another Saudi and a Moroccan member of al-Qaida's local affiliate, known as the Nusra Front.

Russian warplanes have been

The small European Union-member state has limited capacity to process large numbers wishing to head toward richer European Union countries such as Germany, Austria or Sweden.

This could leave thousands stranded in Croatia and further east and south in Serbia and Macedonia—the countries on the so-called Balkan migrant corridor. The Hungarian border closure is the latest demonstration of EU's uncoordinated response to the flow of people reaching its borders.

Several buses packed with

carrying out airstrikes in Syria since Sept. 30. A U.S.-led coalition has been targeting the Nusra Front and the Islamic State group for more than a year.

The Observatory's chief Rami Abdurrahman said it was not clear if al-Charekh was killed by U.S. or Russian warplanes. The Observatory, which relies on a network of activists inside Syria, said an Egyptian commander escaped the bombing. It said all four men had been dispatched to Syria by al-Qaida leader Ayman al-Zawahiri.

Jihadi activists on social media say al-Charekh was killed by a U.S. drone strike.

migrants arrived in the Slovenian border town of Petisovci on Saturday from Croatia. A train carrying 1,800 people arrived to the border in the afternoon. Police said that after processing, most of them are transferred toward the Austrian border.

The U.N. refugee agency said Slovenia has the capacity to accept some 7,000 migrants a day. Slovenian officials said, however, that they can permit up to 2,500 people a day, and will allow in new groups only after previous groups leave the country.

Croatian police said more

A U.S. official said an American drone targeted and struck al-Charekh but the U.S. was waiting for confirmation that he was actually killed in the attack. The official was not authorized to discuss the strike publicly so spoke on condition of anonymity.

Al-Charekh, the alleged leader of al-Qaida's operations in Syria, was one of six men that the U.N. Security Council imposed sanctions on last year. He was 49th on a list of 85 most-wanted militants by Saudi Arabia who are outside the kingdom. The list, issued in 2009, includes 83 Saudis and two Yemenis.

than 5,000 migrants have entered the country since Hungary closed its border, illustrating a possible backlog of those whom Slovenia would not admit.

UNHCR spokeswoman Caroline Van Buren said at Slovenia's border with Croatia Saturday that "all is going well" as the first groups of migrants started arriving to the small Alpine nation.

"We have been in cold since two in the morning in Serbia," said Omar Thaqfa, 33, from Mosul in Iraq. "We were sitting in the street. Very cold. Inshallah, I am going to Germany."

"America is offering its services to the Safawi (Iranian) project in the region by removing every brain who confronts this project," wrote prominent Lebanese jihadi cleric Sirajeddine Zuraikat on Twitter. Zuraikat is believed to be in Syria and is wanted in his home country.

The U.S. killed top al-Qaida official Muhsin al-Fadhli in an airstrike three months ago. Some Arab press reports suggested that al-Charekh was a member of the Khorasan group, a secretive cell of al-Qaida operatives who U.S. officials say were sent from Pakistan to Syria to plot attacks against the West.

Focus

Islamic State's influence felt in far-off Asia-Pacific

The Associated Press

AUSTRALIA

Islamic State has been particularly effective at recruiting followers in Australia. An estimated 120 Australians are believed to be fighting with the movement and other militant groups in Syria and Iraq, a relatively high number given Australia's population of just 24 million. Many more have followed the group's calls for inciting violence within Australia, including a group of teens arrested this year on suspicion of plotting an Islamic State group-inspired attack at a Veterans' Day ceremony.

In a bid to stem the flow of foreign fighters, Australia made it a criminal offense for its citizens to travel to certain parts of Iraq and Syria that are held by Islamic State movement fighters. The government has also canceled the passports of people it believes are planning to join the fight in the Middle East.

Experts disagree about why the group has had so much recruiting success in Australia, which is widely regarded as a multicultural success story and where around 2 percent of the population is Muslim. Some experts cite the poor integration of some Australian Muslims with the rest of the country, and the particular focus that Islamic State recruiters have given to Australia. The Australian government has also failed to keep tabs on some citizens who were radicalized.

BANGLADESH

Islamic State claimed responsibility for the recent killings in Bangladesh of an Italian and a Japanese, both gunned down in daytime attacks five days apart. The government quickly dismissed the claims as unverified. Still, the poor South Asian country has seen a clear rise in violence blamed on radical Islamist groups, including the killing of four moderate bloggers earlier this year.

Most of Bangladesh's 172 million citizens are Muslim. While the government is secular and traditionally moderate, the emergence of Islamist political groups has created a clear divide between moderates and radicals and contributed to political instability. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been cracking down on radicalism, and six hardline Islamist groups have been banned in recent years. Analysts say the small few that remain are too disorganized to have links with global extremist groups.

"In Bangladesh, extremist groups' activities are very limited and they are homegrown," said retired army Maj. Gen.



In this Oct. 14, 2015 file photo, Col. Restituto Padilla, spokesman of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, watches a video purportedly showing for the first time two Canadians, a Norwegian and a Filipino woman who were abducted last month from a southern Philippines resort, following a press conference at Camp Aguinaldo at suburban Quezon city, northeast of Manila, Philippines.

Abdur Rashid, now a security analyst. "To influence the local politics, they are active and they want to fool the people by drumming up that they are connected with the IS, but actually they are not."

But another analyst, retired Brig. Gen. Shahedul Anam Khan, described the threat of extremism in Bangladesh as "complex and evolving."

"The government response has been disturbing for there is a tendency to outright reject the international hypothesis that we have connections with IS," Khan said.

INDIA

India's 172 million Muslims are seen as relatively deprived and discriminated against, and tensions with majority Hindus have been a seven-decade constant since the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947 sparked communal violence that left an estimated 1 million dead.

But while some groups like the pro-Pakistan Indian Mujaheddin have found a foothold, officials and analysts say India's Muslims are traditionally moderate and unlikely Islamic State recruits.

Even in Kashmir, where a militant uprising launched in 1989 challenged Indian rule in the mostly Muslim Himalayan territory, "there is no sign of IS at all in Kashmir," said police Inspector-General Syed Javaid Mujtaba Gillani. He noted that police had questioned a few youths who brandished IS flags during an anti-India protest last year, but "some of them didn't even know what IS is about. We concluded that it's a sort of teaser some protesters use to provoke us."

Still, there is a fear that India's Muslims might be radicalized, especially after al-Qaida launched its South Asia branch last year in the country. Muslim imams in the country have urged their followers to eschew the Islamic State and other radical groups, calling them "anti-Islamic."

INDONESIA

An estimated 600 Indonesians have joined IS, and more than 30 have returned to their homeland, national police chief Gen. Badrodin Haiti said. All have been questioned, 15 have been arrested and 12 of those face

trial, accused of conspiring with and recruiting for militant groups including Islamic State.

Some of the money used to support IS activities in Indonesia has been traced to Australia by officials in both countries working together.

"We have detected supporting funds from an Australian source to terrorist networks in Indonesia," said Agus Santoso, deputy chairman of the Financial Transactions and Analysis Center, an Indonesian money-laundering watchdog.

The center is prohibited from publicly disclosing detailed information of its intelligence and data gathering, but Santoso said detailed disclosures have been shared with Australian federal police for further investigation.

Densus 88, Indonesian police's elite anti-terror force, in March arrested five people accused of facilitating the travel of 16 Indonesians detained by Turkish authorities for intending to cross the country's border to join IS in Syria. Indonesian and Turkish authorities are co-operating to track down another group of 16 Indonesians who went missing while on a group

tour in Istanbul.

MALAYSIA

Predominantly Muslim Malaysia has detained 123 people suspected to be linked to the Islamic State group, including civil servants and members of security forces, in the past two years. Police have said some were plotting to launch attacks in strategic areas of Kuala Lumpur, the capital. Some 100 Malaysians were also believed to have gone to Syria to join IS.

The government has warned that the rise of IS influence can "inspire and reignite militant groups in Malaysia."

"The call to jihad by IS is very influential as it is based on Islamic compulsion that has been manipulated so Malaysians are compelled to join them," the government said in a policy paper last November.

A new law aimed at curbing the growth of IS allows detention without trial and without possibility of a court challenge. Critics have slammed the move as a revival of a controversial security law that was repealed in 2012, and warned it could severely curtail civil liberties.

A second new law empowers authorities to suspend or revoke the travel documents of anyone believed to be engaging in or supporting terrorist acts.

MALDIVES

The tiny Indian Ocean archipelago nation of the Maldives is known for its sandy beaches, crystal waters and luxury resorts, but is quickly earning a reputation as a recruitment mecca for radicals. The country of 350,000 is almost entirely Muslim, and some analysts say it has provided one of the world's highest numbers per capita of Islamic State recruits. While the Maldives itself keeps no statistics on the issue, local media frequently report on citizens killed while fighting in Syria.

The Maldives prohibits practicing or preaching non-Muslim faiths. Critics accuse the government of tacitly supporting IS recruitment while stoking Islamist sentiments, a charge the government denies.

The government has started to worry about fallout from IS recruitment. Parliament is now debating legislation to check on citizens who travel abroad, though it has yet to clarify exactly what those laws might look like.

PHILIPPINES

Militants from at least four small but violent Muslim insurgent groups in the Philippines pledged support last year to the Islamic State group and its leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, mostly in videotaped messages posted on the Internet. Philippine security officials say they have found no clear evidence so far of a direct link and active collaboration between Islamic State extremists and any of the groups: Abu Sayyaf, the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Movement, Rajah Solaiman Movement and the Ansar Khalifa.

Islamic State-inspired black flags, however, are visible in a video released this week, purportedly by Abu Sayyaf, of four Western and Filipino hostages kidnapped last month in the southern Philippines.

Former President Fidel Ramos said in a TV interview last year that at least 100 young Muslim Filipinos have traveled to Iraq to undergo training and later return home as "jihadists." The Philippine military says it has not confirmed that.

Philippine officials have approved the creation of an inter-agency group that would create a database to better monitor Filipino militants who may travel to join the battle in Syria and Iraq and later return home, according to a confidential government report obtained by The Associated Press.

Health & Fitness

Del Perez: A beacon of hope for cancer patients

By JOJO SANTO TOMAS
PACIFIC DAILY NEWS

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—It was the hair, she says. She never realized how much her hair had meant to her.

It's three years later, and Maridel Perez has some of it back. She sports a bob that just covers her neck and outlines her beaming face with a bright, buoyant appeal. She wears it happily.

She once had lovely locks to complement her pixie face; a dark cascade of vigor and beauty that fell midway down her back. She had always taken good care of her hair—right up to the summer of 2012 when she lost every strand.

Maridel Perez remembers feeling ... less.

"That made the cancer real," says Perez. "When your hair falls out, you have cancer. I've gone through that experience and now I know that when a woman loses her hair, it can feel like a great loss. Talking about losing your hair? It's a big part of recovery."

She shares her memories with those recently diagnosed or treated for cancer to give them hope, to let them know they are not alone.

At 40, Perez is a three-time cancer survivor, and has finally found her own purpose, her own hope: She has become the guide and counselor, the confidant she wished she had eight years ago.

It is ironic that Perez shares her experiences freely now. Very few people knew that she had already battled cancer twice. When she talks about it, you can feel her cathartic release, borne from years of struggling with cancer—mostly by herself.

Her experiences are genuine and real, her overall shyness only giving credibility to her words. It is difficult to talk and learn about Del Perez without walking away inspired.

"Maridel is an inspiration. She started the Carabaos for the Cure movement in her school, inspiring her team so much that they continued to relay in her honor when she had to leave for treatment," says Tina Noket of the American Cancer Society Guam. "She possesses a caregiving spirit that seeks to make the journey for those with cancer a little easier to bear."

Her ordeal started in 2007.

She got the call while teach-

ing Math Club at M.A. Ulloa Elementary School. Come back now, said the doctor's office. An ultrasound and biopsy had revealed carcinoma in her breast.

"Me? Cancer? I was in denial. I never got sick in my 20s. How could it be cancer? I was only 32," says Perez. "I was stunned, I didn't let it sink in. I told them that I need to call someone because I can't drive."

She had it removed a month later and spent almost every minute in between thinking she was going to die.

Then she struggled through recovery with a smile, doing her best to forget it ever happened.

But a double whammy arrived 18 months later. Uterine cancer and endometriosis.

"They told me it was early but the only option was to take everything out," she says. "I had a hysterectomy and it brought my whole world down again."

Her mortality revealed, she questioned her existence. "Why me" was most common. "What if I was gone" was another. "Would people forget me? Did I make an impact?"

And the most depressing: "Did I even count?"

Only family and a few close

friends knew about her second cancer treatment and again, she chose to bear her struggles mostly alone. She had much to think about.

"Yeah, cancer. It ruined some of my plans," she says. "I still want a family, and I'm still hoping to meet that one person who will be my happily ever after. I think about having a family and I already know I can't have my own kids. Yes, there's adoption but when I made inquiries, they had rules. No diabetes. No cancer. It's not the end of that but it was disappointing."

Her harsh recovery became less so as months passed, then years.

And then, the third call. She answered with a resigned tone.

"I was like what else? What else can you tell me now?"

It's breast cancer again, replied her doctor. It's aggressive. We need to take care of it now.

She left to Manila three weeks later for surgery but this time she was different. Where she once kept her troubles within her family walls, she was now a buoyant cancer patient.

Her family that had always been there were joined by many more friends, rallying support for the longtime teacher.

Perez got her surgery at St. Luke's in the Philippines, a common medical destination for patients from Guam. She would seek out people from Guam by herself, just to talk to them and feel a little closer to home. It was therapeutic to her, and she realized her words were welcome.

Her doctor told her she needed to rest in between chemotherapy treatments; she said pshaw. She went on sightseeing tours, visited family and took daylong trips to Divisoria, a shopper's paradise. She had lots of kids she loved back home, and they would all get gifts.

"I had three friends in a row diagnosed. I started having more people close to me, my age, I realized cancer can really happen to anybody," she says. "And who would want that to happen to them. From there, I focused on supporting them."

It was infectious.

She walks her survivor strut with pride and confidence, willing to help anyone at the drop of a hat. She stays busy herself, at least keeps her mind moving because when she has too much time to think, she starts asking questions again.

"Yes, cancer ruined plans, but

it wasn't the end, not the end at all. I'm still alive and kicking, I'm still making a ruckus. Throughout this cancer ordeal, I've been by myself, but I'm OK. I never said I couldn't do this by myself. It would be nice to have shared it with somebody but it's OK," she says. "Today, I cherish more the simple things. I love hanging with my family, I love being near them. I don't buy things for myself as often. I spoil everyone else. I take my joy in helping others."

Noket is happy to have Perez on the ACS team and looks forward to giving her public speaking duties. She is a powerful beacon of hope, says Noket.

One tidbit Perez shares? It's OK to still use shampoo and conditioner on your bald head. She did it, too. And, you don't have to use so much, she adds, laughing.

Perez has a new lease on life. Time and love are precious, things are not. Can't take anything with you, either.

"I used to spend a lot on myself, things like clothes ... I know those are just material things. Faced with the possibility of death, I don't think of material things so much now," she says. "I am just so very happy to be alive."

Experts: Concussions are complex but treatable injuries

PITTSBURGH (AP)—The science surrounding how to diagnose and treat concussions is as complex as the injury itself.

No two concussions are alike. And while those heavily involved in dealing with them—from researchers to clinicians to scientists—know the road ahead will constantly evolve, this much appears to be certain: the days when doctors told concussion patients to sit in a dark room until their symptoms abate are over.

A two-day symposium of over three dozen experts came

to a unanimous agreement that the options for treatment are wide-ranging and that inactivity is no longer the best—only—option.

"Historically, management for concussion is to rest," said Dr. Javier Cardenas, director of Barrow Concussion and Brain Injury Center at Barrow Neurological Institute in Phoenix. "We believe that is an incorrect assumption."

The symposium, underwritten by the NFL Foundation, focused on finding a starting point for putting together standard

guidelines on everything from concussion protocol to active treatment options.

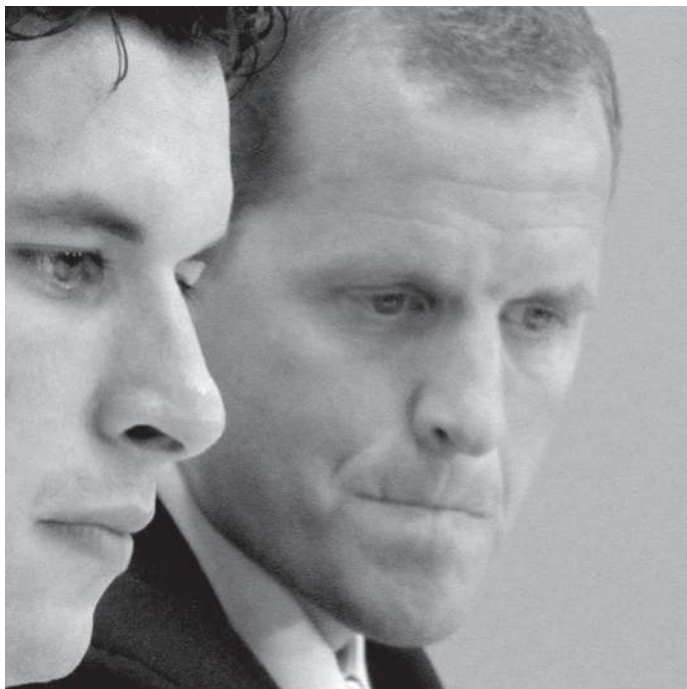
Dr. Micky Collins, executive director UPMC Sports Medicine Concussion Program, said while coming up with a consensus on treatment will take time, it's important to get the message out that concussions are manageable and patients have choices on how to recover.

Collins has worked with NHL star Sidney Crosby and NASCAR driver Dale Earnhardt Jr. as well as thousands of other concussion patients, pointed to a Harris poll in which 71 percent of adults believed concussions were an untreatable condition. That public opinion was in line with the science available at the time, but Collins stressed education for athletes, coaches and family members is important as the research evolves.

"It's a wild ride to be working in this space," Collins said. "There's a natural progression of science that has to occur and we're watching it unfold in front of our face. This is the next step."

One that moves away from the traditional prescription of keeping the body idle to allow the brain to recover. Cardenas said restricting athletes during the recovery period can cause unwanted complications like depression.

"For those involved in athletics, they view this as a punishment," Cardenas said.



In this file photo from Sept. 7, 2011, Dr. Michael Collins, right, sits with Pittsburgh Penguins' Sidney Crosby during an NHL hockey news conference in Pittsburgh about Crosby's recovery from a concussion he suffered in January 2011. AP

Personal Trainer

Learning to scuba

It's a water sport, but scuba diving is risky and more like flying an airplane than swimming – you must be formally trained to do it.

Open Water Diver Certification

Open Water Diver

Required for people 15 or older (those age 10 to 14 take different training for a junior certification)

Physical condition?

Exam by a physician is required

Swimming ability?

You need not be an expert, but good basic skills are required

Finding a course

Scuba shop or club can recommend a teacher appropriate for your goals

How long is training?

Depends on whether you are studying intensively, for example at a resort, or in your spare time

- Several class sessions
- Several pool sessions

What equipment do I need for class?

Check with teacher; these are the basics, and some can be rented:

Mask
Snorkel
Air regulator
Air tank
Weight belt
Knife
Boots
Fins

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DECOMPRESSION TABLE

Source: Recreational Scuba Training Council
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas and Paul TrapTribune News Service

Life & Style

Film by POW's daughter explores reconciliation with Japanese

TOKYO (AP)—As a child, filmmaker Jan Thompson wondered why her father would not talk about his experiences as a World War II veteran. She was angry when she finally learned about his suffering as a prisoner of war of Japan, and then started to speak up for him and his comrades.

It took Thompson, a three-time Emmy-award-winning documentary director, 22 years to craft a film telling their survival stories in the 2013 film "Never the Same," and just as long for her to find a measure of peace. With that change of heart, she's now embarking on a new film project that explores reconciliation between descendants of those on both sides of the war.

The project has connected her with Hidetoshi Tojo, the great-grandson of wartime prime minister Hideki Tojo, who was executed as a war criminal and is seen as a symbol of Japan's militarist past.

Reconciliation can take generations of time on both sides, based on her experience.

"When you are talking about reconciliation, everyone thinks that it can happen to the first generation, and it can't, it won't, and it doesn't," she told The Associated Press in a recent interview in Tokyo. Comparing it to a ripple effect from the pebble thrown into the water, she said: "I think our audience is going to be surprised how far these ripples go and I hope that, as a result of that, then our audience



In this Oct. 13, 2015 photo, filmmaker Jan Thompson, left, greets Hidetoshi Tojo, the great-grandson of wartime prime minister Hideki Tojo, who was executed as a Class-A war criminal after the World War II, prior to her interview with him in Tokyo.

nese POW camps. On one of three ships that carried him, only a few hundred of the 1,600 prisoners survived. As a medic, Thompson treated many of the POWs.

He avoided speaking of the experience, even after his daughter found his POW badge in a suitcase left behind by her grandmother when she died.

But he did attend POW reunions, and in 1991, Jan Thompson asked to accompany him to one gathering. There, she heard stories she had never heard before, and felt inspired to share their stories.

Her father broke his silence and described his experiences in the film, including watching many of his countrymen starve to death. He died at age 92 in 2012, a year before the film was released across the U.S.

Thompson's own resentment of her father's suffering during the war only began to thaw several years ago.

"(For) 22 years I was building anger in me, because my father wouldn't talk about it, and he never showed any anger toward Japan," she said. "But as I would learn more about what had happened to him, I definitely got angry, like a volcano."

is going to understand what a war can do."

Although her father never verbally expressed anger toward Japan, he never bought Japanese products.

Thompson, a professor of visual media at Southern Illinois University, began contacting Tojo and others, she said, after reading an AP article about the offspring of Japanese war criminals.

"I would not have thought that there was a man still feel-

ing pain so many generations away," she said. "Mr. Tojo, he is four generations down and he is still feeling (it) a little bit."

In an interview with the AP in August, the younger Tojo recounted childhood experiences of prejudice, including being called by his great-grandfather's name instead of his own. His father had trouble finding a job, and once tried to kill himself.

Seeking to surmount past enmity, Tojo contacted Clifton Daniel, a grandson of former

President Harry Truman, who is remembered in Japan for ordering the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. They have exchanged emails and hope to meet.

"Reaching full reconciliation all at once would be difficult. But I'm sure we can build understanding, if we can respect each other, and that would be a first step," Tojo, a 43-year-old entrepreneur, said after the interview.

Thompson, 58, stressed the

importance of facing history accurately, "no matter how painful it is."

Some 132,000 Allied troops were taken prisoner across Asia during World War II, including more than 30,000 in Japan, historians say. Nearly one-third died in captivity—a death rate several times higher than for prisoners held by Germany and Italy.

In 1942, Robert Thompson was among the Allied prisoners transported by "hell ships" from the Philippines to Japa-

Timberlake sings a little, dances a little at Memphis event



Justin Timberlake speaks during the Memphis Music Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, Saturday, Oct. 17, 2015, in Memphis, Tenn.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—Justin Timberlake sang and strutted his way through his induction into the Memphis Music Hall of Fame on Saturday, doing vocal impersonations of soul singers Al Green and Otis Redding, performing on stage with Sam Moore of Sam & Dave, and joking with buddy Jimmy Fallon.

The pop singer and actor accepted the honor in front of about 2,100 people, who laughed throughout his acceptance speech. With a drink in tow, he told Fallon, who introduced him, that he was not funny. The pair marched together on stage as Timberlake led the audience in the fight song for the Memphis Tigers' football team, which upset Mississippi on Saturday.

Timberlake, a Memphis native, joked with friend DJ Paul of rap group Three 6 Mafia and sang bits of Green's "Love and Happiness," Sam & Dave's "Hold On, I'm Comin'" and Redding's "(Sittin' On) The Dock of the Bay" during his speech. He even

cursed a few times.

"This is the (expletive) coolest thing that has ever happened to me," said Timberlake, a former 'N Sync member and solo artist who has won multiple Emmy and Grammy awards and appeared in several films.

Later, he added: "The Grammys are political. The Emmys are political. Memphis is not political. And don't get me started on Hollywood."

The event honored musicians and performers with strong connections to Memphis, known as a cradle of blues, soul/R&B and rock n' roll. Also inducted were Sam & Dave, Elvis Presley guitarist Scotty Moore, Booker T. & the MG's drummer Al Jackson Jr., singer Alberta Hunter, blues pianist Memphis Slim and country singer Charlie Rich. Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards accepted the award for Scotty Moore, who did not attend.

Eighty-year-old Sam Moore, one half of the duo Sam & Dave, performed to close the

show. He was joined on stage by Timberlake, who danced during "Soul Man" and "Hold On, I'm Comin'." They then sang "(Sittin' On) The Dock of the Bay" together.

"I left my home in Memphis, headed for the lights of L.A.," Timberlake sang, changing some of the lyrics to fit his own success story.

Sam Moore's singing partner, Dave Prater, died in 1988. They recorded several hits for Stax in the 1960s.

Fallon, who has performed with Timberlake on "Saturday Night Live" and "The Tonight Show," sang like Elvis, did an impersonation of Donald Trump and called himself "Mrs. Justin Timberlake" during his speech.

"He's one of the biggest stars in the world," Fallon said of Timberlake. "He can sing, he can dance, he can act, he's funny, he's good looking. And if you don't believe me, you can ask Justin himself. He wrote this speech."

Richards praised Scotty Moore for influencing his career. Scotty Moore played guitar on Presley's first recording, "That's All Right," at Sun Studio in 1954, and traveled with Presley as the rock n' roll icon started his music career.

Richards dropped the award when he approached the podium.

"I dropped it classically, tastefully," Richards joked.

Bluesman B.B. King was honored in an "In Memoriam" video. He died earlier this year at age 80.

Video and musical tributes accompanied the inductions of the other artists. Nicknamed the "Silver Fox," Rich recorded at Sun Studio in Memphis with influential producer Sam Phillips.

Jackson kept time for Booker T. & the MG's, the bi-racial, rock-soul-funk collaboration that served as the house band for Stax Records. The Memphis-born Jackson was fatally shot in 1975.

Grateful Dead bassist Phil Lesh battling bladder cancer

SAN RAFAEL, Calif. (AP)—Grateful Dead bassist Phil Lesh says he has been diagnosed with bladder cancer and is being treated in Arizona.

The 75-year-old bassist announced his illness Friday on the Facebook page of his San Rafael restaurant and concert hall, Terrapin Crossroads.

Lesh says he was diagnosed in early October and has been undergoing tests at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale and will eventually have surgery to remove the tumors. He says he's "very fortunate" to have the pathology reports show the tumors

are all non-aggressive and that there is no indication that they have spread.

He canceled Phil Lesh and Friends shows scheduled for Oct. 24 and 25 at the Terrapin Crossroads.

Lesh says he will be able to return to normal activities two weeks after surgery and will reschedule the canceled dates.

AP
This May 9, 2009 file photo bassist Phil Lesh performs with The Dead, performs at the Forum in the Inglewood section of Los Angeles.



'Chevalier' named best picture at London Film Festival

LONDON (AP)—Greek director Athina Rachel Tsangari's comedy of manhood "Chevalier" was named best picture at the London Film Festival on Saturday, during a ceremony that honored Cate Blanchett with a major career award.

It was a fitting finale to a festival that sought to showcase the work of talented women both onscreen and behind the camera.

Polish director Pawel Pawlikowski, who headed a prize jury that included actors Chiwetel Ejiofor and Kristin Scott Thomas, said Tsangari's film about a battle of egos among six men on a yacht was "both a hilarious comedy and a deeply disturbing statement on the condition of Western humanity."

Tsangari—whose film beat much-praised contenders including child-soldier saga "Beasts of No Nation" and searing Holocaust drama "Son of Saul"—thanked "all of the strong women who have inspired me—and all of the strong men."

During a black-tie dinner ceremony at London's 17th-century Banqueting House, Blanchett was awarded the British Film Institute Fellowship by

her "Lord of the Rings" co-star Ian McKellen, in recognition of a career that has already netted her two Oscars, for "The Aviator" and "Blue Jasmine."

The award was preceded by a compilation of clips from Blanchett's 20-year film career, interspersed with praise from directors including Peter Jackson, Todd Haynes and Richard Eyre.

"It's a cross between an obituary and a tribute," Blanchett said. "I feel like I've died and gone to heaven."

Blanchett said she'd never thought of her work as career, or even a choice. Acting, she said, "chose me."

Blanchett starred in two films at the festival: Haynes' 1950s-set lesbian romance "Carol" and James Vanderbilt's "Truth," in which she plays TV news producer Mary Mapes, who was fired over a story about former U.S. President George W. Bush's military service.

American director Robert Eggers' Pilgrim horror film "The Witch" won the festival's first-feature prize. Jennifer Peedom's Himalayan study "Sherpa" was named best documentary and "An Old Dog's Diary" by Shai Heredia and Shumona Goel took the short-film trophy.

Hispanic coalition: Take Trump off 'Saturday Night Live'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—NBC is enabling Donald Trump's "hateful speech" about Hispanics by giving him a platform as host of "Saturday Night Live" and should pull the invitation, a coalition of Hispanic advocacy groups said.

In a letter to NBC Universal CEO Stephen Burke and "SNL" executive producer Lorne Michaels, the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda said it applauded the company when it severed its beauty-pageant ties with Trump over his remarks about Hispanic immigrants.

Trump hasn't apologized for his "bigoted comments" that included describing some Mexicans in the United States

illegally as criminals and rapists, the group said, and it is "flabbergasted" by NBC's decision to put Trump on "SNL" on Nov. 7.

"We are appalled that you would enable Trump's hateful speech for nothing (more) than a ratings ploy and ask that you rescind the SNL invitation," the group said in a letter sent Thursday and released publicly.

NBC Universal, "SNL" and Trump did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

In an interview earlier this week with Fox News Channel in which he was asked about similar criticism, Trump said he had no reaction, then added that polls show he's "doing very

Actor Patrick Dempsey in Maine for cancer fundraiser

LEWISTON, Maine (AP)—Actor Patrick Dempsey traded his race car for a bicycle this weekend at the Dempsey Challenge in his home state.

Dempsey returned to Maine for the two-day fundraiser involving biking, running and walking events that started after his racing team's victory at the "Six Hours of Fuji" endurance race in Japan.

The event in Maine, where Dempsey was born, is a fundraiser for The Patrick Dempsey Center for Cancer Hope & Healing, which he and his sisters created in 2008 in partnership with the Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston. They were inspired by their mother, Amanda who died from cancer last year.

Dempsey told the Sun Journal that coming home for the Dempsey Challenge is like coming home for a family reunion, sharing memories, grief, accomplishments and support.

"The overall feeling and openness of everyone participating in the challenge is magical," he said.

He was joined at the event's annual Cancer Survivors' Walk on Saturday by Joan Lunden, a journalist and television host who was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2014. She told the crowd of walkers and runners that the "unsung heroes" are the nurses and volunteers who help cancer patients in their journey.

On Sunday, Dempsey will be participating in a 50-mile ride.

Dempsey is best known as Dr. Derek "McDreamy" Shepherd on TV's "Grey's Anatomy," but he left the show earlier this year and put his focus on his racing team, Dempsey Proton Racing. In addition to racing, he's filming the movie "Bridget Jones's Baby" in London.

About 4,000 people were participating in the challenge. The goal is to break the 2014 record of \$1.41 million raised by 3,871 participants, said Aimee Arsenault Labbe, the Dempsey Center's manager of special events and development.

well with Hispanics."

Trump's appearance on "Saturday Night Live" will end up "sanitizing" his remarks with humor, said Felix Sanchez, who is chairman and co-founder of the National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts and among those who signed the letter.

NBC Universal is being contradictory, Sanchez said, courting Hispanic viewers with its Spanish-language platforms but giving them a "slap in the face" by putting Trump on the air.

The National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, which includes 40 national and regional civil rights and public policy groups,

is reviewing further action, Sanchez said, including such options as staging protests the night of the telecast or calling for boycotts of the show or network.

He also suggested that cast members consider their own boycott, noting that in 1990 cast member Nora Dunn and pop singer Sinead O'Connor refused to appear on the show with host Andrew Dice Clay, with Dunn calling his comedy degrading to women.

Michaels' response at the time was to laud Dunn and her stand but insist that "the show will go on

Education is the first step to leaving a life of crime

DEAR ABBY: I am 21 and come from a family of crime involving drugs and violence. I was taken by the state as a child in need of care at 14. I've been in and out of juvie and did 18 months in juvenile prison. I'm now sitting in adult county jail. I'm going to get one more chance, according to the judge.

Where can I get help if I want to live a rightful life and fix mine? With very little income, I only know how to make money illegally, which is more than many people make in two or three years. I want to do right this time. What's your advice?

STUCK IN CRIME IN KANSAS

DEAR STUCK: My advice is to finish your education. At the very minimum, get your GED. Fight the temptation to go for "easy money" and find a mentor who can steer you toward constructive activities and opportunities. A place to look would be one of the prison ministries.

You are still young and have your whole life ahead of you. It will be far smoother and more successful if you don't add to your criminal record.

DEAR ABBY: My 10-year-old daughter and I enjoy host-

ing sleepovers for her friends from school. Over the last few years, her circle of friends has increased, as have the dietary needs of said friends. It went from simple meals like macaroni and cheese, pizza or hamburgers to parents requesting gluten-free cookies, soy milk, almond milk, and other demands that drive me crazy.

I'm willing to accommodate to a point, providing vegetarian options and no nuts, but for parents to demand that I spend (what seems like) hundreds of dollars on food my family and I never eat is insane.

The last time this happened, I asked the parent—nicely—to provide a small container that I could store in my fridge for the girl to use for her soy milk. The woman became irate, called me thoughtless and wouldn't let her daughter come! I don't know what I did wrong, but apparently I made some faux pas because the same thing happened with a different girl who wanted gluten-free everything.

Abby, what should I do or say in these situations? I usually provide snacks and such that fit most diets, but a lot of times the main course contains gluten, dairy, etc., and I don't want to go broke buying select types of food for one kid.

SALLY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR SALLY: You did nothing wrong. Asking the mother to have her daughter bring a quart of soy milk with her was not rude, and the same is true for the mother of the girl who has an intolerance for gluten. The parents of children with food allergies should be used to the routine of providing allowable foods for them to bring when they will be eating away from home, and for you to have received the reaction you did was over the top.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

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By Bryan Basset

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By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Brownish songbird
5 Tiny
8 Large (Pref.)
12 TV ad-vertisers
14 "Once — a time"
15 Barack Obama, e.g.
16 Exploit
17 Stocking stuffer?
18 Soft and weak
20 Actor Benjamin
23 Sandwich shop
24 Depend (on)
25 Insists on
28 Yoko of music
29 Break a Com-mand-ment
30 Discover-er's cry
32 One bordering on divine
34 Witticism

DOWN

35 Soon, in verse
36 Rotates
37 Sound system
40 Kin of 30-Across
41 Break into a computer
42 Raze
47 Liniment target
48 Eternally
49 Disposi-tion
50 Operated
51 Break suddenly

19 Level
20 A sib
21 Tear to bits
22 Lotion additive
23 English cattle breed
25 Naive reformer
26 Gloomy
27 Tibia's place
29 Movie
31 Chances, for
33 Graded (papers)
34 Com-punctions
36 Explorer Heyer-dahl
37 Counter-feit
38 Mexican entree
39 Rever-berate
40 "So be it"
43 Actress Longoria
44 Charged bit
45 Spanish Mrs.
46 With it, once

Solution time: 27 mins.

Friday's answer 10-12

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Chris Kattan, 45; Jon Favreau, 49; Ty Pennington, 51; John Lithgow, 70.

Happy Birthday: Don't settle for less when you can have more. Call in favors and use your contacts to get ahead. Initiate change and take responsibility. Look for prospects that fit your skill set, and you will be able to expand your interests and improve your standard of living. Don't rely on someone else to make you happy. Your numbers are 9, 15, 22, 25, 31, 43, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Use diplomacy when you speak. Avoid regrets. Be mindful of those around you and concentrate on making personal changes that will encourage you to be happy, healthy and fun to be with. Enjoy your life. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Engage in something that enhances your knowledge. Expanding your interests will open up new opportunities along the way. Romance is in the stars. Expect detours or delays if you travel or deal with large institutions. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You'll have plenty of options, but making the best choice won't be easy. Given the number of people involved, you might find yourself confused. Before you make a decision, gather information. Someone is misleading you with exaggerated details. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take care of personal business. If your chores are complete, complaints will be limited. What you do to please others will be more ef-

fective than anything you say. If you take solid action, you will become the go-to person. ★★★ **LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Don't linger. Hop to it and improve your situation. Knowledge is a powerful tool, and the chance to pick up information and experience must not be ignored. An open mind and curious spirit will bring positive results. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't give in to demanding people. Try to take part in activities that will bring you in contact with those who can offer positive support. Walk away from the negativity in your life. Achieving satisfaction should be your goal. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Look at your options and take a chance. Don't let fear of failure hold you back. Stop letting everyone else take the lead. Do your own thing and don't look back. Make each day count instead of counting the days. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): An important opportunity is apparent. Offer to apply your skills or services in an unusual fashion and you will come out a winner. Your past experience and innovative outlook will pave the way to future prospects. Love is highlighted. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You will face opposition. Don't provoke an argument or take on a battle you aren't prepared to fight. Too much of anything will lead to disaster. Stick to the truth, do a good job and focus on personal perfection, not changing others. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST
THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep a low profile. Take care of personal business and refrain from letting what others do or say get to you. A moneymaking opportunity will come to you from an unlikely source. Love is on the rise. Express your feelings. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll view professional directions with greater optimism. The chance to earn money doing something you enjoy is within reach. Keep an open mind even if someone gives you negative feedback. Constructive criticism will help you avoid mistakes. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Interact with people who interest you. Take part in events that allow you to show off your talents and make contributions. A personal partnership will develop with someone who recognizes what you have to offer. Romance is in the stars. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are fashionable, intuitive and astute. You are proactive and humanitarian. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

3	6		1				7
	4	5				9	
			5	7			2
	7		8	3		9	
2			4	6			
		9				3	8
5		2		3			
7				1		5	6

Difficulty Level ★

10/19

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

5	3	8	1	2	7	9	6	4
9	1	2	3	4	6	8	5	7
4	7	6	9	8	5	3	2	1
6	4	1	7	5	9	2	3	8
2	9	3	4	6	8	1	7	5
8	5	7	2	1	3	6	4	9
3	6	4	8	7	1	5	9	2
7	8	9	5	3	2	4	1	6
1	2	5	6	9	4	7	8	3

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

UMBRELLAS

Solution: 8 letters

O	E	L	T	S	E	P	I	R	T	S	T	A	N	D
T	G	O	S	N	G	O	L	F	H	E	E	R	T	P
R	N	O	O	R	R	N	O	I	H	S	A	F	M	A
E	U	P	L	E	A	R	E	T	P	I	I	I	S	S
N	O	A	A	T	L	L	O	O	N	L	N	S	U	N
D	L	N	U	T	D	L	R	T	F	I	G	C	N	A
Y	P	O	N	A	C	T	S	W	W	O	O	S	I	
T	L	I	A	P	A	I	I	A	G	C	I	V	H	R
S	T	T	M	B	R	N	S	N	K	S	T	E	I	T
A	C	C	L	U	D	H	I	A	S	A	R	N	S	
C	A	E	O	P	O	D	T	B	H	D	P	F	E	E
E	P	T	R	W	L	O	R	E	N	G	I	S	E	D
R	M	O	E	O	O	E	D	A	H	S	R	K	S	E
O	O	R	F	A	B	R	I	C	J	U	M	B	O	P
F	C	P	E	L	D	N	A	H	P	O	L	I	C	Y

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Beach, Canopy, Cloth, Cockatoo, Compact, Cover, Designer, Fabric, Fashion, Folding, Forecast, Gift, Golf, Handle, Hat, Jumbo, Kids, Large, Lift, Logo, Lost, Lounge, Manual, Mini, Patio, Patterns, Pedestrians, Policy, Pool, Portable, Protection, Purse, Rain, Safe, Shade, Shield, Shower, Stand, Stripes, Sunshine, Tourist, Tree, Trendy, Wash, Windproof

Last Friday's Answer: Fortune
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ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

NORTHERN MARIANAS J CIVIL ACTION
HOUSING J NO. 15-0140
CORPORATION J
Plaintiff, J
-v- J
JOAQUIN CABRERA J
LIZAMA and J SUMMONS FOR
MARY FRANCES J PUBLICATION
DANFORD-LIZAMA J
Defendants. J

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT,
JOAQUIN CABRERA LIZAMA:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filling your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated October 7, 2015.

/s/
Clerk of Court

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DAY & NIGHT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Meeting on **Tuesday, October 20, 2015 at 3:30 p.m.** in Room E (Building B) of the Northern Marianas College – Tinian Campus in San Jose Village, Tinian.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
A. September 22, 2015

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS¹

III. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION²

V. NEW BUSINESS
1. To review the remaining applicants for Fall 2015.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS MATTER

VII. SCHEDULE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

/S/JULIAN U. HOFSCHEIDER
Chairman

¹ We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.

² Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

³ Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule meeting for assistance.

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SECTION 8 VOUCHER ACCEPTED

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Applications can be obtained and submitted at Saipan Tribune, Inc. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Friday, October 30, 2015.

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Harvey, Murphy lead Mets over Cubs 4-2 in NLCS opener



NEW YORK
(AP)—Matt

Harvey delivered his first huge performance on baseball's October stage. Daniel Murphy has been providing them all postseason.

Harvey pitched the game he's been pining for, Murphy took his latest star turn and the New York Mets beat the Chicago Cubs 4-2 Saturday night in their NL Championship Series opener.

"I wanted this game bad," Harvey said.

After eliminating rival St. Louis and streaking into New York with 12 wins in 13 games, the power-hitting Cubs and their young sluggers were stopped cold on a chilly night at Citi Field. Trying to end a championship drought that dates to 1908, they remained four wins from capturing their first pennant in seven decades.

Meanwhile, the Mets have a mind to make some history of their own—the kind that would break the Cubs' hearts one more tormenting time.

"If Harvey wasn't pitching, it would have looked a lot better. He was outstanding tonight," Chicago manager Joe Maddon said. "His stuff is always good, but the command was outrageous tonight."

Game 2 in the best-of-seven set is Sunday night, with Chicago ace Jake Arrieta facing rookie Noah Syndergaard.

Left fielder Yoenis Cespedes cut down a runner at the plate, and Curtis Granderson had two RBIs for New York. Travis d'Arnaud homered off the giant Mets apple in straightaway center field.

"I've never seen that before," Murphy said.

Helped by Cespedes' strong throw, Harvey struck out nine and worked into the eighth for the first time in more than two months - brushing aside all that late-season hoopla about his innings limit as his 2015 total reached 202.

"I talk to this guy every day. I know exactly what he's made of," Mets manager Terry Collins said. "He wants the baseball. ... That is not just a mask that he's putting out. This kid likes to compete."

Jeury Familia got four outs for his third playoff save, and the NL East champs solved the wild-card Cubs for the first time all year. The Mets went 0-7 during the season series and had dropped nine in a row to Chicago overall.

New York is looking to advance to the World Series for the first time in 15 years, the longest absence in franchise history but one the Cubs and all their pained, loyal followers certainly scoff at.

Murphy connected off losing pitcher Jon Lester for his fourth homer of the playoffs and made a diving play at second base for the final out.



AP
New York Mets' Daniel Murphy (28) celebrates his home run with teammate Travis d'Arnaud during the first inning of Game 1 of the National League baseball championship series against the Chicago Cubs Saturday, Oct. 17, 2015, in New York.

"I freaked out when I caught it, and then you've got to make the throw," Murphy said. "I just happened to be in the right spot."

Kyle Schwarber was the only one of those rookie boppers who showed off his prodigious power for the Cubs, hitting a mammoth homer that chased Harvey with two outs in the eighth and pulled Chicago to 4-2.

Starlin Castro had an RBI double in the fifth but was thrown out at the plate by Cespedes on Javier Baez's single.

Murphy finished off the Dodgers in the deciding game of their Division Series with an all-around offensive performance that inspired a "Mr. October" nod in a tweet from the New York original, Reggie Jackson.

Two nights later, the free agent-to-be was at it again, getting the Mets off to a rollicking start against Chicago.

"Once again, put our team behind the 8-ball against a really good pitcher," Lester said. "Just trying to get your feet wet and trying to figure out what's going on, and boom! You're down 1-0."

Murphy, who set a career

high this season with 14 homers, launched another one into the second deck in right field for his fourth of the postseason. By taking Clayton Kershaw (twice), Zack Greinke and Lester deep, the 2014 All-Star has tagged \$517 million worth of pitchers in these playoffs.

"He's locked in, and when he gets locked in he can do some damage offensively, and you're

seeing that right now," teammate David Wright said. "It doesn't matter what they throw at him. Left-hander, right-hander. Fastballs, off-speed pitches. It's fun to watch."

It was Murphy's third homer against a left-hander in the playoffs - he had one during the regular season. And by connecting in his third consecutive postseason game, he matched a Mets record set by Donn Clendenon in 1969, the year he was World Series MVP.

"Saving the homers, I guess," Murphy joked. "If I knew what I was doing, I would have hit more homers during the regular season."

Granderson's soft RBI single on an 0-2 pitch from Lester put the Mets up 2-1 in the fifth, and d'Arnaud hit a 431-foot drive in the sixth. Juan Lagares stole third against Lester in the seventh and scored on Granderson's sacrifice fly.

With that familiar October chill in the New York air for the first time this postseason, Harvey came out firing 95-96 mph heat on a 48-degree night.

Chicago hit several line drives that were turned into outs, including one that prompted Harvey to duck quickly out of the way and another that struck him near his pitching shoulder.

But this was his game.

"The ball kind of dented my arm a little bit, got me right in the triceps," Harvey said. "It's a little bit swollen right now, but the training staff will take care of that and we'll be all set."

Little hit, big win; Royals beat Jays for 2-0 lead in ALCS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—The Kansas City Royals kept waiting for Blue Jays ace David Price to give them some hope.

It turned out to be Toronto's leaky defense that provided it.

After managing one hit over six innings, Ben Zobrist's easy fly that somehow fell for a hit began a five-run rally against Price in the seventh inning Saturday. The Royals rolled the rest of the way to a 6-3 victory over Toronto and a 2-0 lead in the AL Championship Series.

"We needed to catch a break," the Royals' Alex Gordon said, "and Zobrist's ball was it."

Luke Hochevar wiggled out of a jam to keep Kansas City in the game, and Danny Duffy and Kelvin Herrera got the ball to closer Wade Davis, who had to survive a shaky ninth to preserve the win.

Davis gave up a leadoff single and walked pinch-hitter Cliff Pennington, but bounced back to strike out leadoff man Ben Revere and MVP candidate Josh Donaldson. Jose Bautista then flied out to right

to give Davis his third postseason save and the Royals another postseason comeback win.

"Our guys never quit," Royals manager Ned Yost said. "They keep going."

Even though they looked foolish flailing at Price's pitches—until the lazy fly ball by Zobrist changed everything. They proceeded to string together four singles and a double in their go-ahead inning, getting run-producing hits from Gordon, Eric Hosmer, Mike Moustakas and Alex Rios, along with an RBI groundout from Kendrys Morales.

It was a monumental collapse for Price, who had at one point recorded 18 straight outs. He fell to 0-7 in seven postseason starts, including a loss to Texas in their AL Division Series.

"I gave up hits at the wrong time," he said. "I felt good. It's a very scrappy team. They put the ball in play. They continued to battle. It's just a tough loss."

Meanwhile, the reigning AL champs have won nine straight ALCS games dating to their memorable seven-game series

against Toronto in 1985—the year they won their only World Series. The record is 10 straight wins set by Baltimore in the 1960s and '70s.

Now, the Blue Jays head home for Game 3 on Monday night in dire trouble. All but three of the previous 25 teams to take a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven era have won the series—though Toronto did rally from the same hole to beat the Rangers in five games in the division round.

"We've been here before," shortstop Troy Tulowitzki said, "but it's not a place we want to be."

For most of the afternoon, it appeared the Blue Jays would forge a 1-1 tie.

Ryan Goins drove in a run off Ventura in the third, snapping an 18-inning scoreless streak by Royals pitchers. Edwin Encarnacion and Troy Tulowitzki added to the lead in the sixth.

The way Price was carving up the lineup, a 3-0 advantage looked to be enough.

The only bad pitch he threw the first six innings was his

first, which Alcides Escobar swatted for a leadoff single. Price threw first-pitch strikes to 12 of 14 batters at one point, and struck out the side in the sixth inning, giving no indication he was about to implode.

"We just needed to catch a break," Moustakas said. "Price was throwing the ball unbelievable. We got the early hit and he was kind of cruising. We just needed to find a way to get a runner on base so we could do what we can, keep the line moving."

The mistake came when Zobrist sent a popup to shallow right field to start the seventh, and Goins gave chase from second base and Bautista from right field. Both wound up letting it drop for a single, and for the first time all game, a sellout crowd at Kauffman Stadium began to stir.

"I put my glove up and pretty much was saying, 'I'm going to make this play,' and then I didn't make the play," Goins said, "so it's on me."

Lorenzo Cain followed with a clean single to extend his postseason hit streak to 11

games, matching a franchise record. Hosmer's single got the Royals on the board, and Morales added an RBI groundout up the middle, before Moustakas came up. In a 2-for-25 slump and without an RBI this postseason, he pulled a tying double to right field to set the crowd of 40,357 into a frenzy.

Gordon's double gave Kansas City the lead. Rios added another single off reliever Aaron Sanchez to close the book on Price, who was dinged for all five runs in one disastrous inning.

The last time he allowed five runs in an inning was May 8. The opponent: Kansas City.

The Royals tacked on another run off the Toronto relief corps in the eighth, but it was hardly necessary. Kansas City's own shutdown bullpen made certain the lead would stand up.

"You got to get a win under your belt," Blue Jays manager John Gibbons said. "It won't be easy, no doubt about that. But you get one win out of the way it can turn things around in a hurry."

Steele narrowly hangs onto lead at PGA Tour season opener

NAPA, Calif. (AP)—Brendan Steele had no complaints about his game Saturday in the Frys.com Open. He struck the ball well, made four birdies for a 3-under 69 and walked off Silverado with a one-shot lead going into the final round.

It was only after he finished that he saw that just about everyone else did so much more.

Andrew Loupe had a 63, starting with five straight birdies and making four in a row late in his round. Kevin Na and Jason Bohn each had a 64.

Three others shot 65, including Argentine rookie Emiliano Grillo, who played the final three holes in 3 under.

“The way it firmed up at the end yesterday, and how firm it was today, you really had to be on your game in order to do that,” Steele said. “I guess you never underestimate the talent level out here. I didn’t really ever flip the mindset. Just trying to do the best that I could.”

It was good enough to keep the lead—barely.

Sixteen players were within four shots of the lead, meaning the PGA Tour season opener was wide open.

Loupe went from a tie for 29th to playing in the final group with his 63, which matches the course record at Silverado first set by host Johnny Miller in 1976 and matched on Thursday by Steele. Na played the final three holes in 3 under to join Loupe just one shot out of the lead.

Steele stayed in the lead the



AP
Brendan Steele hits out of a bunker up to the second green of the Silverado Resort North Course during the third round of the Frys.com golf tournament Saturday, Oct. 17, 2015, in Napa, Calif.

entire back nine, though he wasted a chance to at least build a cushion going into the final round. The last three holes were set up for scoring with the par-5 16th, a forward tee to make the 17th play only 296 yards, and the par-5 18th.

Steele had to settle for pars.

He couldn’t get up-and-down from a bunker on the par-5 16th. His tee shot was slightly pulled and bounced out of a tree back

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to the fairway and short of the green on the 296-yard 17th hole, and he could get no closer than 20 feet with a wedge on the par-5 18th.

“It happens,” he said. “Whether it’s at the end or the start, you just have to deal with it.”

A pair of PGA Tour rookies were among the eight players two shots behind at 12-under 204. Grillo, coming off a win in the Web.com Tour Championship two weeks ago, went eagle-birdie-par.

“The course asks you to be aggressive a little bit, but you have to be very smart out there,” Grillo said. “If you play smart you can score well.”

Harold Varner III played

that stretch in 1 over, having to scramble for a par on the 17th and missing the 18th green long with a wedge to make bogey. He shot 69.

Grillo drove near the 17th green and nearly took out Rory McIlroy, who was still playing the hole. Grillo was under the impression the group had left.

And if he had hit the four-time major champion?

“Would have put me out of

my misery,” McIlroy said.

McIlroy opened with two quick birdies, though frustration set in quickly and he whacked the flagstick with the end of his putter after missing a par putt on No. 4. He finished with a 71 and was eight shots behind in a tie for 39th.

Justin Rose, who along with McIlroy is at the Frys.com Open because of an eight-man exhibition he played in Turkey three years ago, used that closing stretch to make a pair of birdies for a 68 and get within two shots.

Others at 12-under 204 were Jason Bohn (64), Kyle Reifers (65), Graham DeLaet (69), Will Wilcox (69) and Jhonattan Vegas (69).

Justin Thomas had a 69 and was three shot behind.

The 54-hole cut knocked out nine players, so the final round will be played in twosomes from one tee. Loupe will play in the last group with Steele, and perhaps they can share tales from the Valero Texas Open. That’s where Steele won his only PGA Tour event in 2011 as a rookie. And that’s where Loupe had a chance to win in 2014 as a rookie until he faded at the end. Loupe wound up back on the Web.com Tour, and won a Web.com Tour Finals event just last month.

“I just think overall I feel I’m more ready,” Loupe said. “I needed to get a win those Finals. That was huge, just to close out a golf tournament and all that.”

Brees, Watson help Saints beat Falcons, 31-21



NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Ben Watson sank to his knees at the back of the end zone with both arms raised, looked up at the frenzied Superdome crowd and absorbed the adulation.

This was more like it.

Drew Brees passed for 312 yards, Watson racked up a career-high 127 yards receiving to go with a fourth-down touchdown catch, and recently reeling New Orleans handed the Atlanta Falcons their first loss this season, 31-21 on Thursday night.

“It felt great. It was really great to see the fans enjoying themselves,” Watson said. “We want to win for ourselves and for our families, but to be able to look up at the stands and see people dancing and having fun, it was very exciting for us.”

Desperate for a victory, the Saints (2-4) enjoyed big plays in all phases, a common occurrence when New Orleans hosts night games. Including the play-offs, the Saints have now won 19 of their last 21 prime-time games in the Superdome.

Michael Mauti, who grew up near New Orleans after his father, Rich, played for

the Saints, blocked a punt and recovered it for a touchdown, delighting the Superdome crowd with a play reminiscent of Steve Gleason’s famous block against Atlanta in 2006.

Gleason, now paralyzed by ALS, was at the game, watching from his motorized wheel chair. He reacted with this Twitter post: “Hey, Falcons. #NeverPunt.”

“The cool thing was that Steve was here to see that,” Brees said. “It brought back some good memories.”

Mark Ingram ran for two short touchdowns, and New Orleans’ defense recovered three fumbles—two inside its own 20.

“That blocked punt and a couple of turnovers really told the story,” said first-year Falcons coach Dan Quinn, speaking after a loss for the first time. “It’s hard to overcome those.”

Devonta Freeman rushed for 100 yards, including a 25-yard TD, for Atlanta (5-1). Matt Ryan passed for 295 yards and two TDs. He also was sacked five times, including three for defensive end Cam Jordan.

“We made mistakes early on and it cost us,” said Freeman, who also turned a short pass into a late 13-yard score. “I feel like

we beat ourselves, but they’re a talented team and they did a lot of great things tonight.”

Freeman’s first touchdown cut New Orleans’ lead to 24-14 with 13:07 remaining, which seemed like plenty of time for a Falcons team that had already orchestrated four fourth-quarter comebacks this season.

The Saints had other plans, responding with the type of will-imposing drive that was commonplace during much of the decade since coach Sean Payton and Brees arrived in New Orleans, but seldom seen this season.

New Orleans drove 80 yards in 11 plays, eating about five minutes off the clock. During the series, Watson tied a career high with his 10th catch of the game. Brees found Brandon Cooks for 26 yards on a third down. Ingram capped the drive by powering in to make it 31-14.

That wasn’t the only example of the Saints’ restored swagger on offense. Late in the third quarter, the Saints capped a 10-play, 63-yard drive by first drawing Atlanta offside on fourth-and-goal from the 4, then converting a 2-yard pass to Watson.

“That’s a huge momentum-gaining-type play in a game like

that, and it took some marbles to call it,” Brees said, summing up the night as “validation.”

“For it all to come together like that, it just gives us a glimpse of what we can be,” he said.

The Saints never trailed, racing in front on the opening series, an 80-yard drive capped by Ingram’s first TD.

Mauti made it 14-0 when he smothered Matt Bosher’s punt, scooped up the ball as he landed and sprang into the end zone.

Atlanta cut it to 14-7 on Ryan’s 7-yard pass to Roddy White, but the Falcons, who outgained the Saints 265 yards to 174 in the half, squandered a pair of promising drives with fumbles. First, rookie Tevin Coleman was stripped by linebacker Dannel Ellerbe and cornerback Brandon Browner recovered on the 9. Later, Ryan mishandled a snap and Ellerbe recovered on the New Orleans 17.



AP
New Orleans Saints tight end Benjamin Watson (82) celebrates his touchdown catch against the Atlanta Falcons during the second half of an NFL football game, Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015, in New Orleans.

Lamar Odom regains consciousness, family and friends say

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Family members of Lamar Odom declined to comment on his condition or activities Saturday, a day after he regained consciousness and communicated—speaking and even giving a thumbs-up from his hospital bed—after being found in extremely critical condition at a Nevada brothel.

Alvina Alston, publicist for JaNean Mercer, Odom’s maternal aunt and godmother, would not confirm whether Odom was breathing on his own or communicating more.

His movement on Friday was the first significant update on Odom’s health since he was found unconscious and facedown at the Love Ranch in Crystal, Nevada, on Tuesday afternoon.

Odom spoke a greeting and gave a thumbs-up, Alston said. “He woke up, and he spoke,” Alston said.

A person who is close to estranged wife Khloe Kardashian, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because she was not authorized to release details of Odom’s condition to the press, also said that he was able to say hi to Kardashian.

His former coach Jim Harrick in Los Angeles, who said Odom sounded upbeat on a call just a few weeks ago, said Kardashian told him that Odom is now off dialysis, and that he showed a response when she reached down to say “Lamar, I love you.”

“Khloe has promised me she’s going to stay by his bedside until she and him can walk out of the hospital together,” Harrick said.

Authorities are still retracing Odom’s \$75,000, three-day

visit to the brothel that started late afternoon Saturday, with blood-test results to determine what caused his medical episode still pending.

The brothel’s owner and spokesman have said that he chose two women to accompany him in a VIP suite on his first visit to the ranch. Odom had said that he had done cocaine before his arrival, and the brothel said they saw him drink alcohol and take as many as 10 supplements sold as “herbal Viagra.” One brand that he took, Reload, was the subject of a 2013 warning from the Food and Drug Administration, which said the pill contained sildenafil, the active ingredient in prescription Viagra.

The brothel also said he became upset Sunday following a phone call where his ex’s “Keeping Up with the Kardashians” show was mentioned. But he was generally in a good mood, even suggesting that he stay an entire week at the brothel in the rural community.

Odom was then found unconscious there Tuesday with white and reddish substances coming from his nose and mouth. He was breathing and taken to Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center in Las Vegas.

Kardashian rushed to his side that night and since then, friends, teammates and loved ones, including his two children, have visited and posted messages on social media asking for prayers.

Kardashian had said her family won’t be posting content on their apps while attending to his health crisis. The online message read: “As a family, we’ve decided to hold off on publishing content across our apps while we continue to support

tance, 76-70. Three consecutive free throws from Esdreton trimmed the deficit to 3, however that was the closest Pasion De Amor could get, as it folded up in the end with its team captain and Demapan missing several easy shots.

Esdreton registered 28 points to lead Pasion De Amor, while Demapan logged 23, but was held to two field goals in the fourth. Arreza also had double figures with 11, while Rey Pestillos was the missing link on Pasion De Amor’s offense, tallying only 8.

Typhoon Soudelor.

The Oleai track and field facility is also due for repairs and resurfacing with the money coming from a Community Development Block Grant from the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.

“The Ada Gym right now is our main concern. We’re having problems in organizing indoor games and we already received lots of requests from different organizations to use the facility,” said Rogolifoi.

“But as of now we can’t ac-



and pray for Lamar.”

She also thanked fans for their kindness and understanding. The message was addressed

Meanwhile, Red Rice will face in the finals the winner between the Makalaro Lang and Mamba semis game. The last semis pairing will be scheduled this week after it was called off last Saturday due to Typhoon Champi.

Red Rice 91 – Barbo 34, Fernando 28, Chan 9, Cabanas 8, Saplan 6, Achas 4, Marilla 2.

Pasion De Amor 77 – Esdreton 28, Demapan 23, C. Arreza 11, Pestillos 8, Conti 7.

Scoring by quarters: 23-14, 47-37, 67-63, 91-77.

commodate them. The gym remains closed until we fix the leaking roof.”

Aside from the roof leaks, which flooded the court when Typhoon Champi hit Saipan, the ceiling of the offices inside the Ada Gym and the conference room also needs to be repaired.

“The gym and our offices were filled with water after the typhoon. The water came from the sides so the windows should also be repaired,” added Rogolifoi.

to fans as a note from Kardashian on her blog-like app. Announcing a posting black-out is a rarity for the family, who meticulously document their lives on various social media channels and on the “Keeping Up with the Kardashians” television show.

Meanwhile, Mercer had issued her own statement Friday to thank the public for its support, saying they’re family was focused on Odom’s “complete healing.”

TEEN

From Page 28

to attack,” added Angeles, who will be assisted by Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong’s Takemoto Suzuki.

Angeles also said members of the pool must always be ready to handle pressure.

“Even if you do not have the ball yet, expect the defense to get to you quickly and be ready for defenders who will put pressure on you. Every possession is a battle and there will always be pressure, whether you are playing offense or defense,” the coach said.

“And when there is pressure, you always expect the game to be fast-paced, so our players must keep up with that. Speed is

“No words can express the overwhelming gratitude we feel for the outpouring of support from around the world,” the statement said.

Alston said Mercer is the sister of Odom’s late mother who helped raise him in New York, where she still lives. Mercer and other family members are now in Las Vegas. The statement said: “His complete healing is paramount and our primary focus.”

The former NBA star had

the name of the game and they must sustain their pace and be mentally prepared for changes in the pace of each match.”

So far, Angeles is training 25 members of the pool and the number will be down to 18 after this week’s training.

The players who made the initial cut from 50 aspirants were Tan Holdings Football Club’s Mark Esalan, Thaipi Austria, John Michael Roxas, Angelo Bergancia, Floyd Muna, siblings Taka and Ichiro Borja, and Kirro Batino; Kanoa FC’s Kirt Andon, Angelo Ada, Sebastien Manabat, Ian Maniago, and Jhoey Noble; Matansa FC’s Lolo Benito, Reginald Pascual, Glenn Basillo, Justin Achas, and Raseff Altami-

In this March 2, 2008, file photo, Los Angeles Lakers forward Lamar Odom reacts to a call during the second half of their NBA basketball game against the Dallas Mavericks, in Los Angeles.

been a beloved member of the Los Angeles Lakers, winning two championships with the team and enjoying widespread fame as a reality TV star himself before his recent downward spiral, which included leaving pro basketball, a pending divorce with Kardashian and a DUI arrest.

“He’s one of the most wonderful, kind, humble and generous human beings you’d ever want to meet,” Harrick said.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	4	0	0	1.000	149	76
N.Y. Jets	3	1	0	.750	95	55
Buffalo	3	2	0	.600	124	105
Miami	1	3	0	.250	65	101

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	3	2	0	.600	99	113
Tennessee	1	3	0	.250	102	91
Houston	1	4	0	.200	97	135
Jacksonville	1	4	0	.200	93	145

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Cincinnati	5	0	0	1.000	148	101
Pittsburgh	3	2	0	.600	120	95
Cleveland	2	3	0	.400	118	132
Baltimore	1	4	0	.200	123	137

West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	5	0	0	1.000	113	79
San Diego	2	3	0	.400	116	134
Oakland	2	3	0	.400	107	124
Kansas City	1	4	0	.200	117	143

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	3	2	0	.600	132	109
Dallas	2	3	0	.400	101	131
Washington	2	3	0	.400	97	104
Philadelphia	2	3	0	.400	117	103

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Atlanta	5	0	0	1.000	162	112
Carolina	4	0	0	1.000	108	71
Tampa Bay	2	3	0	.400	110	148
New Orleans	1	4	0	.200	103	143

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	5	0	0	1.000	137	81
Minnesota	2	2	0	.500	80	73
Chicago	2	3	0	.400	86	142
Detroit	0	5	0	.000	83	138

West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Arizona	4	1	0	.800	190	90
St. Louis	2	3	0	.400	84	113
Seattle	2	3	0	.400	111	98
San Francisco	1	4	0	.200	75	140

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

rano; MP United FC’s Eunsyn Hahn, Jon Villagomez, Jason Quiamzon, and David Meyers Jr; and Paire FC’s Kaden Church and Blake Mister. Guam-based Edward Joon Cho rounds out the list.

“I think the training pool has some talented players. The EAFF U13 festival will be one of the opportunities to know how much we could do,” Sekiguchi said when asked about the composition of the pool in a separate interview with Saipan Tribune last weekend.

In the EAFF event, which will run from Nov. 7 to 11, the Teen Ayuyus will be playing against Chinese-Taipei, North Korea, Macau, Hong Kong, Mongolia, and host Guam.

RED RICE

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Fernando finished with 28 points to back up Barbo, who sizzled for 34 markers. Barbo canned 24 of his total output in the second half to foil Pasion De Amor’s repeated comeback bids.

Pasion De Amor moved within 2, 65-67, after Esdreton opened the fourth with a long jumper. However, Barbo countered with 8 straight points against the triple of Chris Arreza to keep Red Rice safe dis-

BIGGER

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“We’re hoping the governor or Legislature would do their share. The money from the scratches won’t be enough and we’re going to use it for travel of CNMI athletes to the Pacific Games.”

The Ada Gym—including the offices—and the Francisco M. “Tan Ko” Palacios and the Miguel “Tan Ge” Pangelinan ballfields were among those that were heavily damaged by

SIDEBAR**Champi foils more weekend events**

Typhoon Champi tore through Saipan over the weekend forcing the cancellation of several sporting events.

The Saipan Little League Board Inc. election was scheduled last Friday, while the 2015 Triple A Youth Baseball League and the first of the four-leg All Schools Cross Country race were also cancelled by their respective organizers for safety of the athletes.

SLL members, managers, and coaches who participated last season, and parents, and other volunteers were set to elect a new set of officers for 2016.

The new officers will plan the upcoming 2016 season of the Saipan Little League—Majors, Junior, Senior, and Big League divisions.

The Northern Marianas Athletics has set last Saturday as the first leg of the Cross Country race at the Commonwealth Ports Authority

Airport Field.

NMA pushed back their schedule with the first race set next week on Oct. 24. The succeeding legs will be on Oct. 31, and Nov. 7 and 14 all at 4pm at the CPA Field.

The Division of Youth Services-funded Summer/Fall Season Triple A Youth Baseball Under-18 League was also cancelled and will push through at a latter date.

Games will be held once a week, every Saturday morning since the Francisco M. “Tan Ko” Palacios ballfield could not host night matches with the lights still broken and not aligned.

Meanwhile, it’s unconfirmed whether the finals rematch between pennant champions Brotherhood and the San Antonio Masters in the Belau Men’s Slow-pitch Softball League pushed through yesterday or not. *(Jon Perez)*



JON PEREZ

It’s not sure whether finals action in the Belau men’s softball league between Brothers and San Antonio Masters went through yesterday at the Dandan softball field.

Champi cancels weekend games

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Tan Holdings and Paire FC players, seen here in action during the opening week of the NMIFA youth fall league, will return to action this Saturday after last weekend’s matches were suspended due to Typhoon Champi.

Soccer and basketball games last Friday and Saturday were called off due to Tropical Storm Champi.

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association decided to suspend Week 2 games in all age group competitions in the 2015 NMIFA Youth Fall League Friday afternoon after Saipan heavy rains and strong winds hit Saipan early Friday morning.

“Games for all age groups, competitive and non-competitive, are cancelled tomorrow (Saturday). More severe weather conditions are expected to prevail later today (Friday) and most or all soccer fields may not be ready by tomorrow (Saturday). A lot of players may not be able to show up for

their games due to the aftermath of the Champi and as of now it appears that a lot of areas are flooded and without power,” NMIFA general secretary Ross Zapanta said in an email forwarded to club coaches and referees.

The youth league was supposed to have three games each in the girls and boys U15 age groups and two apiece in the co-ed U12 and boys U18 for the competitive level at the Hopwood Elementary School and Oleai Sports Complex pitches. In the non-competitive category, various clubs were scheduled to play in the co-ed U6, U8, U18, and U-12 (B division) age groups at the differ-

ent school pitches on Saipan.

Week 2 games will be scheduled on a later date as NMIFA will proceed with Week 3 matches this weekend.

In the Week 3 schedule (Oct. 24), MP United will take on Kanoa, while Tan Holdings will collide against Paire in the co-ed U12 competitive division at the Hopwood pitch at 1pm. For the boys U18 age group, it will be Matansa versus Tan Holdings in the first game at 2:30pm, while at 4:15pm, MP United will duel Paire. Both U18 matches will take place at the Oleai pitch.

In the girls U15 matches at the Hopwood pitch, the schedule is as follows: Kanoa vs Tan

Holdings; Shirley’s vs Paire; and MP United vs Matansa. For the boys U15, Kanoa will face Tan Holdings 1 at the Oleai pitch, which will also host the game between Shirley’s and MP United, while the Paire-Matansa tiff will be played at Hopwood.

Meanwhile, organizers of the 2015 San Antonio Community Action Network Basketball League cancelled matches from Thursday to Saturday and were scheduled to resume games last night.

Yesterday’s matches were all in the open division with Ferrera Builders set to meet GMI Market in the curtain-raiser and MJD slated to square off against Islander Hoops in the nightcap. *(Roselyn B. Monroyo)*

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Saipan Baseball League now awaits word from the Baseball Confederation of Oceania on which member nations would be joining the Oceania Under-21 Baseball Tournament.

Saipan is set to host the inaugural U21 event, which has an age limit of 17 to 21 years old, either a week after Christmas or in early January 2016.

SBL coordinator Tony Rogolifoi said BCO would inform them immediately on how many countries will be joining.

“We’re still waiting for information from BCO and now we can’t do anything about it. BCO is also waiting for confirmation from the other countries,” said Rogolifoi.

He assured that Saipan is ready to host the tournament even though the Francisco M. “Tan Ko” Palacios Baseball Field was not spared from damage by several typhoons that hit

SBL waiting for BCO’s confirmation

the island.

The lights at the Tan Ko field either need to be replaced or fixed and repairs are also needed on the surrounding fence and the batting cages.

Micronesian rivals Guam and Palau are expected to field their respective youth teams in the tournament, which is a qualifier to the second U21 Baseball World Cup set in Sinaloa, Mex-

ico next year.

World No. 14 Australia, New Zealand, American Samoa, Fiji, and New Caledonia would also send teams.

Rogolifoi worked hard to bring

the U21 tournament to Saipan adding that it would help in baseball’s development in the CNMI.

“The U21 tournament is a good exposure for CNMI players. So we’re hoping the top



JON PEREZ

Players who represented the CNMI in the Big League division of the Little League 2015 Asia Pacific Middle East Junior, Senior, and Big League Regional Baseball Tournament on Saipan can try out for the Under-21 team that will be formed for the Baseball Confederation of Oceania tournament.

teams in Oceania would come so they could experience high level competition and learn new things from it,” he said.

Rogolifoi is hoping to form a strong unit made up mostly of players under the Big League division of the Saipan Little League program.

Players who would participate in the 2015 Triple A Youth Baseball League, which is set to open by the end of the month, have the chance to become members of the CNMI team that would be formed.

The Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, and Solomon Islands are the other BCO members.

New Caledonia’s Laurent Cassier is the new BCO president with Victor Langkilde of American Samoa and Australian Chet Grey as vice president and secretary general, respectively.

SBL president Rose Igitol, Palau’s Temmy Shmull, and Innoke Niubalavu of Fiji are executive members.



Harvey, Murphy
lead Mets
over Cubs 4-2
in NLCS opener

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Red Rice takes first finals seat

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Red Rice punched the first finals ticket in the 2015 Blue Haus/IT&E Inter-Color Basketball League following a 91-77 victory over Pasion De Amor last night at the Navy Hill Basketball Court.



Red Rice took a double-digit winning margin and marched into this Saturday's winner-take-all finale, thanks to Darwin Barbo's crucial baskets in the fourth quarter and Pasion De Amor's collapse in the last 4:03 of the match.

Pasion De Amor was very much in the game down by 3, 73-76, going into the last four

minutes of the semis game and had a chance to move closer, but Bart Demapan babied a finger roll. Pasion De Amor paid dearly for that sorry miss, as momentum swung back to Red Rice, which launched a short 7-0 run to regain the twin-digit spread, 83-73.

Barbo anchored the run, as he knocked in a fastbreak layup after Demapan's miss and hit another basket in the paint fol-

lowing teammate Dan Chan's lucky bounce on his 3-point attempt. An Elmer Esdrelon layup momentarily stopped the bleeding for Pasion De Amor, but Red Rice answered with an 8-2 windup to clinch the victory. Barbo nailed another point-blanked shot in the finish, while Red Rice scored its last 6 points off Pasion De Amor's successive errors in the closing minutes of the semis game. Mike Cabanas picked Demapan's pocket off an inbound pass from Esdrelon and made two free throws off the latter's foul, while Angelo Fernando put the icing on the cake, drilling two uncontested layups from two more miscues by Pasion De Amor.

See RED RICE on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Red Rice's Darwin Barbo goes for an uncontested layup from the baseline, while Pasion De Amor's Jun Carag, left, and Rey Pestillos look on during the fourth quarter of their semis game in the Blue Haus-IT&E caging yesterday at the Navy Hill Court.



Bigger funding source needed to improve sports venues

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Sports Association executive director Tony Rogolifoi said a bigger amount will be needed to fix and improve Saipan's sports facilities after several typhoons caused major damage the past few months.

Rogolifoi said the Federal Emergency Management Agency's assistance is a big help as they prepare Saipan's facilities for the XI Pacific Mini Games, which the Commonwealth will be hosting in the summer of 2021.

"FEMA had already checked the [Gilbert C.] Ada

Gym[nasium] and other facilities here inside the sports complex. We're just waiting for the funds to start fixing things and the renovation," Rogolifoi told *Saipan Tribune*.

"But we need a lot of money because we're not only going to repair the facilities but also improve and expand it. It all boils down to funding."

He said FEMA's assistance won't be enough and the money NMSA collects from the instant scratchies lottery is reserved to shoulder travel costs of the CNMI delegation to the Pacific Games, Pacific Mini Games, and the Micronesian Games.

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JON PEREZ

The encasement in the throwing events of athletics is one of the facilities that need replacement after being damaged by several typhoons that hit Saipan.

Teen Ayuyus work on 3 pointers

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

As the East Asian Football Federation Boys U13 Festival 2015 nears, the CNMI training pool is focusing on three factors that would decide the Commonwealth's fate in next month's event in Guam.

Head coach Jerish Angeles said the 25 members of the training pool are instructed to master their individual skills, get used to pressure always, and keep the game's pace.

"For the last few weeks, we are working on improving their individual skills—passing, dribbling, and ball control. We want them to be confident every time they have the ball. After playing in Laos and Thailand (Asian Football Confederation qualifiers), we noticed that our

players were not that confident when they had possession so they were forced to kick the ball out or give it up quickly," said Angeles, who has been leading the

pool's training session for the last two weeks with the help of Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director Kiyoshi Sekiguchi.



"If they are confident in handling every possession and have mastered their individual skills, we will have more opportunity

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Players who join the tryout for the CNMI U13 National Team perform drills during a training session at the Oleai Sports Complex Field early this month.